The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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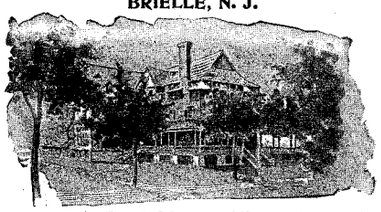

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

WHAT THE PRESS THINK ABOUT THE PUERTO RICO TARIFF.

A SURVEY of the American press shows that the question of tariff or free trade between Puerto Rico and the United States still holds a leading place on the editorial pages, from Boston to Honolulu. A large majority of the papers, as we noted last week, are strongly in favor of free trade with the island.

New England.

The Boston *Transcript* (Rep.) says: "If we insist upon exacting tribute from the suffering island, we shall be acting the motherland very strangely. It will be more like the stepmotherland of the conventional type." The Boston *Advertiser* (Rep.) believes that, aside from the injustice of the proposed tariff, "it is unwise to insist upon a policy condemned by most of the leading Republican newspapers of the country and plainly distasteful to a large portion of the party." The Boston *Herald* (Ind.) goes so far as to say that "unless we can rid our minds of the notion that, like Spain and France, and England in the last century, dependencies under our control are to be exploited for the benefit of our own people—and this is what this form of tariff legislation means—the sooner we rid ourselves of these dependencies, the better it will be both for our national honor and material well-being." The Boston *Journal* (Rep.), however, favors the tariff bill, and warns the Connecticut tobacco-growers that if we have free trade with the island, they will have to admit the Puerto Ricans into partnership in the cigar trade. The Providence *Journal* (Ind.) welcomes the protest against a Puerto Rico tariff as a "cheering indication that public spirit is not decadent in this country, that the people do not like public officials who do not dare to do right, and that partizanship does not blind men or newspapers to the highest considerations of humanity." The Manchester (N. H.) *Mirror* (Rep.) calls the tariff bill "not a bill for relief or justice to Puerto Rico, but for the benefit of the sugar and tobacco interests," and the Burlington (Vt.) *Free Press* (Rep.) says that the Green Mountain State is solidly opposed to the measure. The Springfield *Republican* (Ind.) thinks the arguments for the bill preposterous, and requests Mr. Hanna to "treat the American people as if they had some little intelligence." The Hartford *Courant* (Rep.) quotes at considerable length the argument of a Puerto Rican in favor of free trade, and remarks that "comment would be superfluous." The Worcester *Spy* (Rep.) favors free trade.

New York.

In New York City *The Tribune* (Rep.) and *The Press* (Rep.) favor the proposed tariff heartily, and *The Mail and Express* (Rep.) and *The Commercial Advertiser* (Rep.) consider the bill the best that can be passed under the circumstances, altho they are not so outspoken in praise of it as the first two papers. *The Sun* (Rep.) favors free trade, but is willing the 15-per-cent. tariff bill should pass, if the tariff is to be merely temporary. *The Times* (Ind.), *The Evening Post* (Ind.), and *The Herald* (Ind.) are heartily in favor of free trade, as are also *The Journal* (Dem.) and *The World* (Ind. Dem.).

Philadelphia.

In Philadelphia *The Press* (Rep.) favors the tariff measure, declaring that "the clamor against it is the result of misapprehension, selfishness, spite, and low partizanship," but *The Inquirer* (Rep.) says that if the objection to the tariff bill is "serious enough to endanger much-needed legislation for Puerto Rico, by all means let it be dropped." *The Ledger* (Ind. Rep.) is one of the leaders in the campaign against the tariff. *The North American* (Rep.) says that free trade "is the path the Republican Congress must take if the Republican Party is not to be led into a morass of difficulties. It is good policy to do our plain duty." *The Evening Telegraph* (Rep.) considers the long delay over the matter an "unpardonable outrage," and demands the immediate passage of a free-trade measure. *The Times* (Ind.) says of the proposal to pay over the tariff revenues for the support of the island government: "It would be simply grotesque to levy tariff taxes and give them back to the people, as it proclaims the broken faith of our Government and exhibits only ludicrous and contemptible misfit statesmanship." *The Record* (Ind. Dem.) thinks the proposed tariff a tobacco and sugar-trust measure.

Chicago.

In Chicago *The Inter Ocean*, one of the most loyal Republican papers in the United States, calls the proposed tariff "an outrage," and says that Congress must choose between "plain duty and plain perfidy." *The Times-Herald* (Rep.) goes so far as to say: "When we begin to erect tariffs against territories 'belonging to the United States' we may as well prepare to pull down the flag—for we can not square the condition with American principles and American history. The tariff line marks the boundary where republicanism becomes imperialism, for which the Republican Party will not stand." *The Evening Post* (Rep.) also strongly opposes the tariff. *The Record* (Ind.) observes that "several Republican Congressmen who voted for a tariff for Puerto Rico will have the pleasure of remaining at home while their successors vote for free trade." *The Journal* (Ind.)

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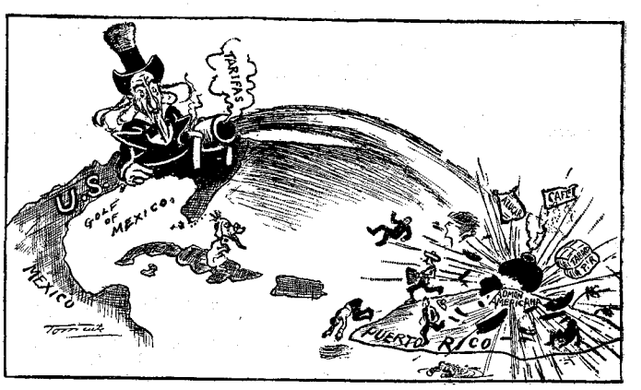
says that nothing less than the fulfilment of General Miles's promise to the Puerto Ricans, garanteeing them equal privileges and immunities with citizens of existing American Territories, "will satisfy the public conscience or appease the public demand." *The Chronicle* (Dem.) declares that in the Republican program imperialism is "plainly avowed." *The Tribune* (Rep.), after holding out a considerable time for free trade, accepts the compromise tariff measure.

The Middle West.

In the Middle West, the region which was considered doubtful in the last Presidential campaign, the protest against the tariff is especially strong. The Cleveland *Leader* (Rep.) says: "Republican policies can not safely or successfully be turned away from the instinct of right and justice involved in the demand for free trade between the United States and the little island which welcomed the American flag with high hopes and every demonstration of joy. Republican leaders ought to know the history of their party too well to trifle with its moral sense." The Cincinnati *Enquirer* (Dem.) thinks that the defeat of plain justice to Puerto Rico is due to "the greed of the monopolists which now prevails in the executive and legislative departments of the Government." The Toledo *Blade* (Rep.) says, however, that the matter "has been obscured in the public mind." The distress in Puerto Rico, it says, is due to "the tornado which devastated the island a few months ago," and "no change in revenue laws nor in the form of government can do anything to alleviate it." The question of revenue "is a purely business one," it continues, and will be settled accordingly. The Cleveland *Plaindealer* (Ind. Dem.) believes that "what the President has so well termed 'our plain duty' will be found at this juncture to be superlatively good politics." The Indianapolis *Journal* (Rep.) strongly favors free trade. The Indianapolis *News* (Ind.) says that the arguments against the tariff measure may be called sentimental, "but the people will prefer sentiment to a breach of faith or to the assertion of a right to maintain a despotism anywhere on

PUERTO RICO: "I may be heavier on election day."—*The Chicago Record.*

the face of the earth under the American flag," and the Indianapolis *Sentinel* (Dem.) declares that "the Puerto Rican question has served to link the causes of imperialism and trust domination tightly together. Nothing can now separate them, and nothing can separate them from the Republican Party." The Detroit *News* (Ind.), in the same strain, says that "at the demands of these [sugar and tobacco] trusts Congress is making one of the most cruel experiments in governmental vivisection that a nation ever undertook, and the President is seeking to justify it in the name of American labor." The St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* (Ind.)



THE DELIGHTS OF ANNEXATION.—*La Discusion, Havana.*

predicts that the triumph of the "commercial politicians" will "surely be short-lived." The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* (Rep.) favors the tariff. "A tariff," it says, "if applied, will touch its people so lightly as to be imperceptible. Puerto Rico has reason to rejoice over American liberality." The Burlington *Hawk-Eye* (Rep.) takes a similar view. "Our Senators and Congressmen at Washington," it says, "have no thought of oppressing the Puerto Ricans. It is amazing that any portion of the Republican press could have entertained for one moment such an absurd thought." The Milwaukee *Sentinel* (Rep.) takes quite a different view, however. It says: "If the voters of the United States think that protected interests should control the policy of the United States toward its new possessions, then a refusal of free trade to Puerto Rico is 'good politics.' If the voters do not believe this, then it is Mr. Hanna and the Republicans who agree with him that are doing the party most harm." The Minneapolis *Journal* (Rep.) says that "it will not hurt the Republican Party to abandon this mistake, and the Republicans look with hope to the Senate to save the party from persisting in a dangerous error," and the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* (Rep.) puts it still more strongly by declaring that "the country will not tolerate the idea of skinning Puerto Rico for the supposed benefit of highly protected industries." Looking further West, one finds the Topeka *Capital* (Rep.) opposed to the tariff measure. The Kansas City *Journal* (Rep.) says: "In their efforts to be loyal to a 'party measure' the Republicans in Congress have supplied the Democrats with a large amount of campaign material in the shape of clippings from the prominent Republican papers of the country." The report that the tariff measure will probably be passed causes the Kansas City *Times* (Dem.) to observe that "this finally agreed upon program of the Republicans makes it doubly certain that they will depend on the slush fund raised by the trusts and tariff barons to carry the coming election, in the face of the unmistakably serious defection in their own party ranks, which has been caused by the enactment of this flagrant breach of faith, this outrage against humanity and justice, this contemptuous brushing aside of the Constitution, this indefensible legislative crime." The Omaha *World-Herald* (Dem.) is quoting anti-tariff arguments from the Republican papers with considerable satisfaction, and the Salt Lake *Herald* (Dem.) remarks that "President McKinley should enforce his censorship a little more strictly," and asks, "What is the censor doing? Can not this appeal to the American sense of honor and love of justice be suppressed?" The Salt Lake *Tribune* (Ind.), however, thinks the Democrats are not actuated purely by considerations of mercy and humanity. It says: "The Democracy has been out in the

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cold for four years. It is crazy for the loaves and fishes, and so it is gathering to itself every discontented man, every fault-finder, every man with an ism or a fad. It is invoking race prejudices, and hopes, out of the mighty accumulation of political dyspepsia, to gather a majority." The Denver *Republican* (Rep.) trusts the wisdom of the party leaders. It says: "According to our best judgment the Republican Party committed a deplorable error in adopting the single gold standard, but it is now and always has been sound and wise in its tariff legislation, and a majority of the voters will heartily approve whatever law it may finally enact on that subject for the people of Puerto Rico."

The South.

Turning to the Southern press, one finds the Baltimore *American* (Rep.) strongly opposed to the tariff bill. It says: "While the supporters of the bill are confident of its passage, their assurance does not alter the 'plain duty' of the Republican majority. That duty is to give the island free trade, and the employment of argument grounded only on party expediency can not change it." The Baltimore *Sun* (Ind.) remarks: "Cecil Rhodes, the cynical South African imperialist, recently pronounced the British flag the most valuable 'commercial asset' which his diamond company possesses. Are the people of Puerto Rico to learn from bitter experience that the flag of the United States is a mere 'commercial asset,' owned by the trusts and unfolded only when there is a dollar in sight?" The Washington *Star* (Ind. Rep.) says: "Puerto Rico and Hawaii are now American territory. Their interests are our interests. We can not afford to exploit them, or to retard their growth, for the benefit of private interests here or there." The Washington *Times* (Dem.) remarks bitterly that "the American community of Puerto Rico may starve to death, but the trusts must still be fattened," and the Richmond *Times* (Ind. Dem.) asks: "What have these poor people in Puerto Rico done that they should be made the victims of an oppressive tyranny like that under which we hold them?" The Charleston *News and Courier* (Dem.) also opposes the tariff bill, and the Atlanta *Constitution* (Dem.) calls it "a cowardly and heartless attempt on the part of the Republican leaders to rob and defraud and deny the rights of a people which had received our troops with open arms and gladly gave up their connection with Spain in order to become a part of the great American republic." The Nashville *American* (Dem). says: "Party necessities may force the passage of the bill, but it will be a heavy load for the Republicans to carry during the campaign." Coming to the sugar-fields of Louisiana, one finds considerable opposition to free trade with the sugar-growing island of Puerto Rico, and the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* (Dem.) and *Picayune* (Dem.) both favor the Republican tariff bill. The latter paper says: "Pity for the Puerto Ricans or Cubans does not warrant the destruction or injury of any American industry; hence the talk that free trade is due Puerto Rico as a matter of right and justice is arrant humbug." The Houston *Post* (Dem.), however, calls the Republican tariff position "indefensible," and says: "The American voter can not be less observant than the undeceived Puerto Rican. He must see also that the trusts and not the Constitution, that organized selfishness and not the people, dictate the course of Republicans in control of the Government. It remains to be seen whether this American voter will deliberately permit himself to be handcuffed and plundered."

The Pacific Coast.

The press of the Pacific coast are also deeply interested in the tariff measure. The San Francisco *Chronicle* (Rep.) favors free trade. It says: "The lawyers may perhaps quibble over the meaning of the words of the Constitution, altho we believe the legal meaning to be clear, but neither lawyers nor anybody else can quibble with justice or make the American people believe that any American citizen should be deprived of his rights," and the San Francisco *Call* (Ind.) says: "The more the country considers the problem of the Puerto Rican tariff the stronger becomes the conclusion that protection and imperialism can not be made to work together without a good deal of friction and more or less kicking." The San Francisco *Evening Post* (Rep.) says that "the moment any one endeavors to justify such a departure from constitutional precedents as is involved in the enactment of the Puerto Rico bill he falls into a slough of legal contradiction from which it is impossible to extricate him." The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* (Rep.), however, favors the tariff bill, and thinks the opposition to it is ill-advised. It says: "If the Republicans who are playing the Democratic game by joining in the chorus of foolish and hyperbolic criticism do not know better, they are not to be congratulated upon their intelligence." The Spokane *Spokesman-Review* (Ind. Rep.) looks with sorrow upon the "squabble" in Washington while the Puerto Ricans are suffering for the necessities of life, and says: "If the confidence of American islanders in both oceans is to be gained it will require a different method than that adopted in Congress in the month past." The Portland *Telegram* (Ind.) says that the proposed legislation is "unworthy a statesman or an honest man," and the Portland *Oregonian* (Rep.) thinks that the quality of the statesmanship displayed is the most important phase of the whole matter. It says: "What especially concerns the country is this striking proof that protected avarice and greed have been able to control the House of Representatives and overbear the President, against plain duty, manifest justice, and the interests of industry and trade between peoples under the common flag of the United States."

The Hawaiian Gazette and *The Star*, of Honolulu, fear that if a tariff is established between Puerto Rico and the United States, the next step will be a tariff that will bar Hawaii's products from United States markets, and they are watching the course of the bill with considerable anxiety.

SECRETARY HAY AND THE "OPEN DOOR" IN CHINA.

THE promises of the European powers that they will not interfere with our business in China are again stirring up comment as Secretary Hay makes public the written notes containing the guaranties. These notes guarantee that whatever influence England, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, or Japan ever exercises over China, or any part of it, the treaty rights of the United States, and of all other nations, with China, will be respected; and neither our citizens and commerce, nor those of any other nation, will be placed at a disadvantage by any discriminating tariff laws or other laws. All nations are thus placed upon an equality in the campaign for Chinese trade; none can exercise such influence over part of China as to bar out the rest. The Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.) says of the agreement:

"Once accepted by all nations, this declaration will, as past precedents show, be enforced by all nations. Important to each European nation, this concession is of paramount value to the United States, whose Pacific-coast line is the greatest on that ocean, whose posts encircle and cross it, and whose trade is destined to be greater than that of any other nation. During the twentieth century this new 'doctrine' established for China is destined to be as important as the Monroe doctrine has been for the Americas in the past century. It protects the present, it safeguards the future, and it establishes the United States in an impregnable position antagonizing no nation, entangled with none, and demanding for all and of all equal rights guaranteed by past treaties and accepted by this new 'declaration.'"

The New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) says: "This is a noble work of peace. Mr. Hay has extended the saying that he serves

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his party best who best serves his country, and converted it into the larger truth that he serves his country best who best serves the whole world."

The *Journal des Débats* (Paris) says, as reported by cable:

"The United States has incontestably just achieved a great success, and has, moreover, rendered a true service to other interested nations, among whom France has the greatest reason to congratulate herself on what has been done. We were the first to sign the declaration when asked by Secretary Hay, and this is not the only mark of confidence which reigns between the two countries. Everything indicates that the old cordiality still obtains in our mutual relations, and what has just occurred at Rouen shows no opportunity for a demonstration of friendship will be allowed to pass."

British sentiment, as revealed in the cabled comments of the London press, is of considerable interest. Says the London *Daily Mail*: "America has forever renounced the policy of the hermit. She pledges herself to take a leading part in the greatest task of the coming century—the reform of the Chinese empire. The attitude of the United States has a cryptic but yet weighty warning for the merchants of Europe, who have hitherto thought it desirable to bolster their trade by all manner of restrictions of competition. America, in her foreign trade, disregards competition, and some day she will learn the same lesson for her home trade. It is a triumph for President McKinley." The London *Chronicle* says that "from England it was only to be expected that the answer would be favorable, but that Russia should have replied that she is happy to comply with the wishes of the United States bears eloquent testimony to the position which the latter power has assumed in the councils of the world." The London *Times* says:

"The Government and people of the United States are to be congratulated upon the successful achievement of a considerable service to the world. The credit of having formulated the 'open-door' policy belongs to England, but the honor of winning for it the formal acceptance of the powers has fallen to our American kinsmen.

"Nowhere outside of the United States will this signal success of American diplomacy be welcomed so gladly as it is welcomed here. Secretary Hay has contributed, in no small degree, to weaken the grounds of serious international complications pregnant with danger to the world's peace.

"It is perhaps doubtful whether the united action which Washington anticipates as a means of procuring reforms in China is within the range of practical politics, but we must hope for the best."

The doubt expressed in the last paragraph of *The Times's* comment is also seen in the remark of the London *Standard* that "the real value of such assurances, which in no wise alter existing conditions, will be seen only when the disruption of China comes to pass."

So, too, think some of the American press. The Springfield *Republican*, for example, says:

"A perusal of the correspondence sent to Congress shows that, so far as the 'open door' is concerned, the situation remains unchanged, and that the lawful rights of the United States are no better established than they were before. France, Germany, and Russia, in their notes, merely reaffirm the policies which they had already proclaimed, and, so far as the future is concerned, they offer nothing but 'assurances' which have no binding effect upon future governments. The United States Government can enter into no contract or convention, and can make no pledge, without the consent of the Senate; and, as our Government is so situated, the assurances of the foreign governments regarding the 'open door' must be seen to have no potency. Mr. Olney, whose experience as Secretary of State gives weight to his opinion, estimated these assurances at their real value in his recent *Atlantic* article, in saying:

"'Our appeals are said to have brought forth satisfactory "assurances." But such "assurances" can hardly be regarded as definite obligations, nor as more than expressions of present views and intentions, nor as being more unchangeable than the views and intentions themselves.' . . . .

"While good may come from securing notes from the powers simply reaffirming policies already adopted by them, it is difficult to see how and where a great diplomatic triumph has been achieved, or how the Chinese problem has been changed or simplified. America's rights remain where they were—in her treaties with the Chinese Government. If other powers invade our treaty rights in China, it would be the duty of our Government to protest and to uphold American interests, just as in the case of any other country, whether in Europe or Asia, where they might be attacked."

THE CŒUR D'ALENE RIOTS.

SUCH conflicting reports and opinions are current regarding the riots and the subsequent reign of martial law in the Cœur d'Alene mining region of Idaho last spring, that few papers have yet arrayed themselves either on the side of the miners charged with destroying $250,000 worth of property with dynamite, or on the side of the military rulers charged with barbarous cruelty toward the same miners imprisoned in the stockade or, as the miners called it, the "bull pen." The New York *Sun*, a strongly Republican paper, thinks that "there can be no excessive appreciation of the heroic and manly figure" of Gov. Frank Steunenberg, of Idaho, a Silver Democrat, who called on the President for troops and quelled the rioting. Governor Steunenberg told his version of the case last week before the House committee on military affairs, which is investigating the whole matter, and he took full responsibility for the acts of the military in Idaho. *The Sun* says:

"The riot of the strikers had assumed so grave a form, that it amounted to levying war against the State and the nation. The strikers burned buildings, held up railroad trains, and murdered men. Law and order were banished. The militia of Idaho were in the Philippines, and the armed forces of the State were powerless in the emergency. Then the governor called upon the President for aid. The troops, when they arrived under the command of General Merriam, were subject to the governor's orders. So far from the civil power being subordinated to the military, the reverse was the case. The martial law that was proclaimed was proclaimed at the governor's instance. It was the governor who arrested and imprisoned miners and placed them in a stockade in lieu of a better place of detention. It was the governor who declared that the strikers should not be permitted to return to the places they had devastated unless they gave guaranties for their future good conduct. It was the governor who took charge of the business of suppressing the entire insurrection, and whatever was done was done by him and at his orders. No one who remembers what happened there can deny for an instant that all that was done was done rightly and properly. Despite his Populism and his labor-unionism the governor protected the property and the other rights of the people of his State like a brave and honest man.

"A weak or dishonest man, if governor of Idaho, would have appeared before the congressional committee and endeavored to besmirch the President and make political capital out of the newspaper howl that has been raised. Not so with Frank Steunenberg. He told the truth and appealed to the good judgment of all self-respecting citizens for the approval of what he did. Every American worthy of the name will say all honor to him."

A quite different view of the matter, however, appears in the following comment by the Detroit *Evening News* (Ind.), which says.

"Despite Governor Steunenberg's bold acceptance of responsibility for all the arrests and detentions under military rule in the Cœur d'Alene district of Idaho, the testimony brought out in the congressional inquiry has been sufficient to satisfy the average American that the condition about Wardner were such as should never be permitted to exist in a free country, and such as could not long have existed in a more accessible portion of the United States, where the facts would have been more promptly and more

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widely disseminated. Enough has been developed to convince any unprejudiced observer that the United States military were operating practically under the command of wealthy and powerful mine-owners and operators, and that the latter took every advantage of the unrepublican license thus afforded to inaugurate a system of terrorism, destructive of every conception of liberty; and that they used their brief and unrighteous authority for the satisfaction of personal grudges and even for fouler objects, including commercial coercions which amounted, in intent at least to robbery.

"It has been repeatedly testified that men were offered immunity or release from arrest if they would enter into certain business contracts so disadvantageous to themselves that their voluntary consent could never have been secured; that men who were not in or near Wardner at the time of the riots and destruction of property were brought long distances and made to suffer the unnecessary and brutal hardships of the 'bull-pen' for no better reason than that, at some time or other, they had incurred the displeasure of the capitalists who, by the aid of the military, had usurped the place of government; that methods abhorrent to our own or any other civilized form of government were adopted in the effort to obtain testimony against suspected or proscribed persons; that subornation or perjury by threats was rife, and that conditions generally were such as no good citizen of the Republic, no believer in the justice and wisdom of any constitutional guaranties, no lover of liberty, and no opponent of oligarchy can contemplate without astonishment and indignation.

"There can be no question that the troubles out of which these abuses grew presented a serious and puzzling problem, but declared rebellion itself could not justify some of the methods that were adopted in an effort which seems to have been less to restore peace than to establish social, political, and economic supremacy of the operators."

THE MACRUM CHARGES AGAIN.

INTEREST in the case of ex-Consul Macrum was revived last week by his appearance before the House committee on foreign affairs, where he told the story of the interference with his mail and telegrams in South Africa. On the same day that he told his story, the news came out (in a letter from Secretary Hay to Chairman Hitt of the House committee on foreign affairs) that our State Department has been having some correspondence with the British Government concerning the opening of Mr. Macrum's mail by the British censor in Durban, and that Mr. Macrum's allegations were found to be true, and "a very satisfactory apology was returned." The New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.), which thinks that Macrum has an exaggerated idea of his own importance, says of his testimony before the House committee:

"Poor Macrum! Thanks to the mistaken kindness of the House committee on foreign affairs in assuming that the ex-consul's requests for an investigation of his charges were sincere, his microscopic wrongs and his mountainous follies are now public property. The result is that the final condemnation of his course, long held back by the hope that the man had some slight excuse other than treachery or cowardice for his flight from his post of duty, will at last be pronounced by his countrymen, and the best he can expect hereafter, even from the most charitable of them, is contemptuous pity. And really it was a pathetic exhibition that he made of himself when the opportunity which he had so often asked and so adroitly evaded was, to his obvious dismay, actually forced upon him, and he had to tell the ridiculous trifles out of which he and a few sensational newspapers had tried to manufacture an international grievance. All he could say was that two entirely unimportant letters had been opened by mistake, and that an unnamed person had seen in an unnamed paper a bit of worthless information that might or might not have been secured through the deciphering of a code despatch! Such, when reduced to the bare facts, was the mystery the elucidation of which was to set two great nations by the ears, sustain Macrum's claim to the honors of martyrdom, and convict the President and his Cabinet of base subservience to perfidious Albion. Fortunately for the ex-consul, it is easier to laugh at the outcome of the inquiry than it is to work up effective anger over his past misbehavior."

The opposition papers, however, believe that the British apology confirms their contention that Consul Macrum is altogether right, and that Secretary Hay and the President have too much consideration for British interests. Thus the St. Louis *Republic* (Dem.) observes:

"Premier Salisbury of the British cabinet having confirmed the truth of former American Consul Macrum's charges by apologizing to Secretary of State Hay for the opening of Macrum's official mail by the British censor at Durban, there is but little interest now attaching to the congressional investigation of the Macrum incident.

"This investigation, however, may with reason take up the point as to whether the Salisbury apology was sufficient in form and terms. The diplomatic offense contained in the opening of one government's official mail by another government is quite serious. Lord Salisbury should have been required to tender in writing a full and formal apology for that offense. It is doubtful if Secretary of State Hay, sadly lacking in regard for American dignity, held the British Premier closely to this requirement.

TOO MUCH HAY.—*The St. Paul News.*

"By rights, also, and as a matter of diplomatic courtesy, Secretary of State Hay and British Ambassador Pauncefote should apologize to former Consul Macrum. When that faithful American first preferred the charge that the British censor tampered with mail from the American State Department addressed to him at Pretoria, Secretary Hay advanced in defense his opinion that Macrum was a liar. He also secured an expression to the same effect from Lord Pauncefote. It is plain that both were wrong. Mr. Macrum is not a liar. An apology is therefore due for having said that he lied.

"This, however, need not be insisted upon, as it is a bit out of the ordinary routine of diplomatic red tape. But it must be seen to that the British Government has made the proper amends for intercepting, opening, and reading the American Government's mail. Secretary of State Hay is too easy-going about these matters. He is likely to reason that any old thing is a good enough apology where British domination of American consulates is concerned."

A Check to Prize-Fighting.—After the first day of next September exhibitions of prize-fighting will be illegal in New York State. By an almost solid Republican vote, the Horton law has been repealed in the legislature at Albany. Says the Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* (Rep.):

"The Horton law . . . has for the past year been one of the

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greatest scandals which has occurred in the political history of the Empire State. Briefly, the statute permitted boxing-matches to be carried on by any club that could obtain a license, these contests being limited to twenty-five rounds of three minutes each, the gloves worn not to weigh less than five ounces. The result of this law was to practically legalize prize-fighting. . . . There can be no doubt whatever concerning the propriety of passing the bill which has repealed the Horton law. It was an iniquitous piece of legislation that should never have been allowed to deface the statute-books. It was nothing but a money-making scheme hustled through the legislature a year or so ago by the lowest class of politicians and district heelers. Nothing could more clearly show the character of these boxing clubs than the fact of each one of them being subservient to a man of the Dry-Dollar Sullivan type, low, debased characters whose sole idea was to fill their own coffers at any price. No man is likely to have his moral character injured by learning to box, nor should an ordinary sparring match have any debasing influence upon the members of the community who may care to witness such affairs. When, however, any organization is able to clear over $250,000 in one year, as the Broadway Athletic Club is doing in New York City, it is surely absurd for its managers to claim that they are in business for their health, and are also holding sparring matches for the purpose of honest sport and for the instruction of the amateur public."

A CUBAN VIEW OF CUBAN CONDITIONS.

EDWIN WARREN GUYOL, editor of *La Lucha*, Havana, in an interesting view of American rule in Cuba which he gives in *Harper's Weekly*, corroborates Major Runcie's picture of General Brooke's administration, presented in these columns last week, but paints a more cheerful picture by adding what Major Runcie left out—a sketch of General Wood's management of Cuban affairs. General Wood's appointment, says Mr. Guyol, "gave hope to the Cubans throughout the island, reports from Santiago having long shown that the Easterners believed in this doctor-governor." He goes on:

"Since his arrival there has been more actual visible, beneficial work done than there was during the entire year gone by. Where Brooke came to his office at 10 A.M. and went driving in the afternoon, Wood is to be found at his desk by eight, an hour for lunch, another for dinner, bed at midnight. And the rapidity with which he grasps a subject enables him to accomplish a tremendous amount in a given time.

"Where Brooke asked and blindly accepted advice from one or two men, then allowed them to do as they pleased, Wood consults a dozen, then issues instructions, and sees that they are obeyed. Where Brooke received 'reports,' Wood makes personal inspections. Where Brooke 'filed' or 'respectfully referred' complaints, Wood conducts an investigation.

"Wood declares himself candidly, and proves his declarations to be sincere. His policy, which he will carry out to the end unless interfered with by Washington, can be summed up in a few words. He will trust Cubans always, and help them prevent themselves from betraying the confidence. He will convince these people that he is sincere in his desire to place them on their feet, by showing them that he realizes that he needs their assistance to insure their success, and that successful accomplishment of the task before him means his own future assured.

"Cubans are being shown every consideration by Wood, who appreciates their natures thoroughly, and understands that what might appear trivial to an American may mean the lasting friendship or enmity of a Latin.

"He will use the greatest care in selection of incumbents for public office, and will unhesitatingly remove his own appointees should they prove unworthy.

"He intends that the judicial and educational institutions shall be as nearly perfect as possible, and that they shall be the bases of the Cuban governmental establishment.

"The brightest sign, in Wood's eyes, is the apparent anxiety of children and adults to obtain education. This desire is so manifest that schools are being opened as rapidly as furniture and books can be obtained."

Contracts for $500,000 worth of school furniture, including 100,000 desks, have just been made for the Cuban schools, and it is expected, says *The Independent*, that where there were only 4,000 pupils in the schools under Spanish rule, there will soon be 200,000. Much of the credit for this is said to be due to Alexis E. Frye, the superintendent of schools, who is developing the Cuban schools along lines of his own planning. Mr. Frye gives his salary to the Cuban orphan asylums. The next step after the reformation of the schools, continues Mr. Guyol, is the revision of laws. "This," he says, "is in the hands of two commissions of lawyers—Cuban and American, three each, with an independent commission of two Americans to advise on special points. The plan on which they will conduct the work is one of mutual consideration, suggestion, and adoption. Reformation of the judiciary will come next, beginning with the magistrates and notaries, and closing with the supreme tribunal."

Next month will come an event of great importance for Cuba, and of great interest to the people of the United States—Cuba's first election under the new *régime*. Says Mr. Guyol:

"Mayors and municipal councils will be elected. The electoral commission is now hard at work on plans for suffrage and polling regulations. What they will adopt, I can assert, will be somewhat as follows: Qualifications will be, in accordance with the desire of the people, such as to permit suffrage as near universal as it is safe to approach. Knowledge of reading and writing; two hundred and fifty dollars in money or property, or a certificate of service through the war. Cubans by birth, but naturalized American citizens, may vote on relinquishing rights as such.

"The blanket ballot will be used, polled in secret except when the voter can not read. In such cases the ticket will be read to him in the presence of representatives of each party. The oath as to truth of representations regarding qualifications will be exacted from each voter, and determination to subsequently investigate all claims and prosecute for perjury will be impressed on the public beforehand.

"Every effort will be made to convince the people of the advisability of eliminating factional spirit and presenting as few parties as possible. In spite of all efforts, some towns will run as many as fifteen candidates for the mayoralty.

"Qualifications for candidacy will be—knowledge of reading and writing, freedom from any criminal record or pending criminal charge, and indorsement by at least ten per cent. of the voting population of the corporation represented.

"The present acting mayors will be required to manage the elections with their own police, no soldiery to be used unless in case of rioting. There will be no policemen at the polls, merely patroling the cities.

"The people generally will be urged to remember that they are approaching the crucial point; that the elections will be accepted as a criterion of what they can do for themselves; that this is the crisis; that officers now elected are only to serve one year; and that, with so many interested parties eager to see Cubans display characteristics inimical to a nation wishing self-government, it will be better to vote for an enemy than create a disturbance.

"We all believe that these elections will come and go without any trouble whatever, and are confident that we will have no cause for regret of our faith in Cuba and the Cubans."

After the election, thinks Mr. Guyol, real independence for Cuba will be in sight. First, he says, "will come the beginning of the wind-up of American military occupation":

"Commencing in June, troops will be returned to the States. Six thousand will go, leaving us in the neighborhood of four thousand. These will be composed of cavalry to move around when necessary, and artillery to care for forts and guns.

"The rural guard as a body will be done away with, except in the wild districts of Santiago, Puerto Principe, and Santa Clara provinces. Instead, the municipal police will be mounted in suburban villages, and will maintain surveillance over rural property.

"Then Cuba will, for the first time since her discovery, settle

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down to a purely civil life, with no fear of interference from an arbitrary military *régime*.

"Let Leonard Wood alone, and it is safe to assume that he will, during one more year, have insular affairs in such shape that he will conduct general elections, elect a president and congress, have a constitution framed, and turn over to a grateful people what he wishes to build as much as they to have—a model republic."

EFFECT OF GENERAL JOUBERT'S DEATH.

WHAT effect General Joubert's death will have on the duration and outcome of the South African war is just now the subject of considerable discussion. Occurring while Lord Roberts was recuperating his forces at Bloemfontein, just before the beginning of his northward advance, the loss of the commanding Boer general is thought to be a particularly untoward event for the Boer cause. Indeed, the London correspondent of the New York *Tribune* believes that this "will mark the beginning of the end of the Dutch resistance." The New York *World* says that in General Joubert's death "the Boers suffer a loss not less than the British would should General Roberts die, and scarcely less than the Germans would have suffered had von Moltke passed away on the day after Sedan." Not all take this view, however. General Olivier's successful march around the British flank, and the Boer trap by which a British detachment with six big guns were captured last Saturday lead some to think that Boer strategy still lives. General Botha, it is said, will take General Joubert's place as commander-in-chief of the Boer forces. General Botha has made his reputation wholly during the present campaign, and it is said that foreign officers serving with the Boers have expressed surprise at his clever tactics. The Philadelphia *Times* says that "as a matter of fact, the strategy of the Boers has been of so obvious a character that the effect of Joubert's loss is likely to be more important in a personal and political than in a military sense. The Boer campaign, apart from the excursions of small bodies of light troops, has now resolved itself into a simple question of holding an inner circle of strong defenses, and this they should be able to do without the need of any scientific generalship, provided they maintain their determination and do not fall out among themselves."

GEN. PIET JOUBERT.

The Baltimore *American* says, in a similar strain:

"It remains to be seen what effect his death will have on the war. Following so closely the defeat and capture of Cronje, it would, under ordinary conditions, be a crushing blow to the Boers. But it is doubtful if General Joubert has for several months done more than give his influence to the cause. He was severely wounded early in the war, and since then the names of other commanders have figured conspicuously in the various operations of the campaign. He was great as an organizer as well as a fighter. The remarkable organization of the Transvaal army, by which it could be mobilized for active service in forty-eight hours, and the tremendous accumulations of stores of food and munitions of war, were proposed by General Joubert and carried out under his supervision.

"His influence will be sadly missed by the Boers. His plans, however, like those of von Moltke, have been so carefully prepared and so thoroughly impressed upon the Government that his lieutenants will probably be able to execute them with reasonable precision. The Boer is a natural soldier, and the commanders of the Boers appear to be natural generals. The world has thus far learned more about the Boers than their officers, with the exception of Joubert and Cronje. But De Larey, De Wet, Pretorius, and Olivier are men out of substantially the same mold. Olivier has just accomplished the marvelous feat of marching 5,000 men, with 2,500 wagons, between the immense army of Roberts and the heavy forces concentrated below Roberts for his capture. Joubert's death is a great loss, but the British have plenty of fighting before them."

General Joubert was nearly seventy years old, and the exposures and hardships of the Natal campaign are thought to have been the causes of his death, which resulted after a few days' illness in Pretoria. The Philadelphia *Press* says, however, that his death "spares a brave man the sad, inevitable day when the skill of General Roberts and the overwhelming numbers of the British force a way into Pretoria"; and the New York *Journal* says:

"The soil of the Transvaal Republic is unviolated. The virgin fortresses of Pretoria have not yet seen an invader. No doubt General Joubert would have wished his hand and brain to help his countrymen in their last stand, but for himself he could have asked nothing better than to be taken away while the inevitable fate was still in the future. His fame is secured. He has not been subjected to the ordeal of defeat. Always successful when fighting was possible, he withdrew his forces in good order and without loss when irresistible numbers made it necessary for him to take up new bases. Few commanders have ever practised Fabian tactics more successfully. Joubert was a specimen of the best type of the Transvaal Boer. His French blood refined the primitive Dutch instincts and gave him adaptibility to the conditions of modern life. If he had been in control instead of Kruger the Transvaal would probably have kept step with the outer world sufficiently to avoid giving cause for war. Whatever becomes of the Boer republics, Petrus Joubert will remain a South African hero as long as there is a Boer people."

The Delagoa Bay Award.—The dispute which has has just been settled by the Swiss jurists at Berne is explained, and its bearing on the South African war pointed out, in the following paragraphs from the New York *Commercial Advertiser*:

"Briefly, Portugal [in 1883] gave a concession to McMurdo, an American, to build a railway into the Transvaal. He formed a construction company in England and went to work. President Kruger, for obvious reasons, wanted this to be a state railway, like his own, which continued it to Pretoria. He did not want private British and American capital interested in the only outlet to the coast, which might some time become of supreme military importance to the Republic. After preventing completion of the road by prolonging a boundary dispute, he prevailed on Portugal to confiscate and complete it, recognizing responsibility for damages to McMurdo and the British construction company. Where Portugal got the money to complete the road, and how she ex-

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pected to satisfy claims for damages is not known. She is as poor as the Transvaal is rich.

"This was in 1889. The case went to arbitration next year, the British and American governments having taken up the cases of McMurdo and the construction company. The Swiss federal council appointed three jurists as arbitrators, and they have been sitting for ten years. The award at last is about half the lowest sum expected. It is something over $3,000,000, with simple interest at 5 per cent. for eleven years, about $5,000,000 in all. The actual claims for physical value of the road were $1,500,000 by McMurdo and $7,500,000 by the British company, and the value of the concession as a charter, based on earning power, has been estimated at from $15,000,000 to $30,000,000. . . . . .

"There was a time when it was thought this decision would precede a *coup* in the war by enabling the British to take Delagoa Bay, cut off men and supplies, and take a short cut to Pretoria. On the contrary, the award preserves the *status quo*. Portugal can certainly raise $5,000,000 and keep her colonies."

CAN SOCIALISM CURE THE DRINK EVIL?

AMERICAN Socialistic leaders and periodicals have during the past few years advanced with much earnestness the claims of Socialism as a remedy for the drink evil. The Prohibitionists, however, have vigorously combated these claims, and in support of their point of view there recently appeared in *The New Voice* (Chicago) an interesting article from the pen of William E. Johnson, who has been traveling in England and Scotland as correspondent for that paper. He selected Glasgow and Huddersfield as the field of his investigations, for the reason that municipal ownership and "practical Socialism" are partly in operation in these cities. He says:

"Glasgow has done about everything possible for the workingmen save abolishing the rum-shops. She has erected for them homes in every portion of the city, which are rented to the poor at a nominal rate. Widows and widowers have two well-equipped homes where they are boarded at almost a trifling sum, and the babies are cared for by city nurses while the breadwinners are at work. Penny baths are erected by the municipality in all parts of the city where workingmen reside. Municipal tramways take laborers to their work at from one to two cents. Municipal ferries take workmen to the shops for five miles down the Clyde for two cents. Municipal concerts are free for the workmen in the evening; municipal lectures free; free night schools, with free courses in business and technical studies. A free employment bureau is maintained by the city to seek work for the unemployed. Almost without exception the city takes the part of the workingmen in labor disputes. . . . All this has the city done—*but she has also licensed 1,746 grog-shops.* . . . Forty-five thousand persons are arrested for drunken rows every year, and an annual average of 1,200 women are assaulted by drunken husbands—*one hundred and seven poor women thrashed by their husbands each month.*"

In Huddersfield the outlook for temperance is not much brighter. Says Mr. Johnson:

"For a quarter of a century Huddersfield has had the reputation of being a 'Socialist city.' While all the things planned in Bellamy's Utopia have not been attempted, yet not a public function exists, save the telephone, which is not owned and operated by the municipality, and arrangements are now being made by the city for a municipal telephone service. . . . Nevertheless, the police statistics for the past five years show that during this period the total arrests have steadily grown; the arrests for drunkenness have, on the whole, slightly decreased; the number of saloons has remained substantially stationary, while it has been necessary to employ more policemen to keep order."

To the arguments of Mr. Johnson, *The People* (organ of the Socialist Labor Party, New York) replies as follows:

"As to the Socialistic character of Glasgow and Huddersfield, it amounts to just this: The municipal governments have carried out some beneficial, but very insufficient, measures for the relief of the working-people there. Among them may be mentioned cheap municipal street-cars and ferries, good lodging-houses at cheap rates, cheap and good tenements, free employment bureaus, free concerts and lectures, free baths and playgrounds.

"Now these are all very good things, so far as they go. They are things that Socialists work for, whenever and wherever they get into power. They are things that Socialists in the municipalities of France and Belgium have done better than the English and Scottish reformers. But they are not enough. They are only first steps. They do not constitute Socialism, nor a tithe of the Socialist program. To call Glasgow and Huddersfield Socialist cities is ridiculous. . . . Moreover, it is not shown that drunkenness in those cities is worse than or even as bad as it was before the moderate reforms were instituted there. . . . . .

"When the workingmen of any community receive the full product of their labor by working cooperatively for the common good; when this system has been in practise long enough for the people to have formed new habits, new customs, new ways of living, adapted to their changed conditions, then the test will have been made. And if, then, drunkenness continues as bad as before, we shall be prepared to admit 'Socialism can not cure the drink evil.' . . . . . .

"Great physicians, criminal judges, students of sociology, and even some temperance reformers (as Miss Willard and, we believe, Miss Anthony and Mrs. Stanton) have agreed that the drunkenness of the poor is the result of bad social conditions—poor food, bad housing, overwork, anxiety, and despair, all combined with ignorance. Among the rich we find drunkenness, too. And there we find its causes in idleness, luxury, and a generally unnatural way of living.

"Now the establishment of Socialism would put an end to the present evils of semi-starvation, bad housing, overwork, idleness, luxury. It would reduce the causes of anxiety to the minimum. It would insure every man a chance of healthy activity. It would allow no one to live off of others. It would give every man hope and pleasure in his work. And thus it would destroy the greatest causes of drunkenness and of other abnormal practises."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

GENERAL BULLER ought to tell a waiting world where he expects to eat his Easter dinner.—*The Ohio State Journal.*

MR. R. KIPLING has arrived at Bloemfontein, and the Boers are reported to be fleeing in every direction.—*The Boston Transcript.*

WHEN we remember how small Portugal is, it seems remarkable that the Delago a Bay matter was ever arbitrated at all.—*The Detroit News.*

ADVICE TO CHICAGO VOTERS.—Good citizens should not vote to place in the city council a man who would disgrace a penitentiary.—*The Chicago Record.*

BLAME THE TRUSTS.—There does not seem to be any way to work the approaching solar eclipse into any political platform.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

ONE valuable result has already been achieved by Mr. Sheldon's "ideal newspaper." It has made everybody think better of the real newspaper.—*The New York World.*

THE CARNEGIE-FRICK RECONCILIATION.

THE SHORT ONE: "Aye, Hal, thou'rt right. Why should we brawl and fight, when there's better plunder in sight?"
THE LONG ONE: "'Tis sage advice, friend Andy. Here comes our meat."—*The Minneapolis Journal.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

MAETERLINCK: DEMIGOD OR DEGENERATE?

FEW names in modern literature, a recent writer has said, arouse such anger in the celestial souls of critics as the name of Maurice Maeterlinck. To the devotee of the Maeterlinck cultus, he is an incarnate god of letters; to the scoffer, he is the recrudescence of a degenerate imbecility. Perhaps both believers and scorners have good reason for their opposing views, says Mr. A. R. Roper (in *The Contemporary Review*, March), tho he fails to bring out any notable points in favor of the demigod theory. He writes:

MAURICE MAETERLINCK.

"The average man, or even the average literary man, takes down Maeterlinck's first little volume of lyrics, 'Serres Chaudes,' and plunges into a passage which I may translate roughly as follows:

> O hothouse in the midst of the forests!
> And your doors shut forever!
> And all that there is under your dome,
> And under my soul in your likeness!
> The thoughts of a princess an-hungered,
> The weariness of a sailor in the wilderness,
> Brazen music at the windows of incurables.

Sheer Earlswood, says the average reader; and yet, if he did but look closer, there is a sort of meaning in the piece. The hothouse is a type of the modern overcultivated morbid soul, in the midst of a wide, healthy nature, but cut off from the free air of heaven as by a thin viewless barrier of glass. The hungry princess—a favorite type of Maeterlinck's—is the soul pining in vain for its birthright of sympathy. That a beggar should starve, tho painful, is natural, and has no especial significance; a princess is born with a presumed right to live in abundance and tender care. The hunger of a princess, therefore, is a poignant image of forsaken helplessness. So, too, the mind isolated in its own morbid self-consciousness may be likened to a sailor in the desert, sick of the sand and the glare, longing for the cool breath of the waves. And the military music passing under the windows of a hospital for incurables is an obvious emblem of the vigorous healthy life outside that awakens vain aspirations and longings in souls sick, beyond cure, of doubt and melancholy."

Undoubtedly some of Maeterlinck's obscurity, remarks Mr. Roper, arises from the fact that he, a Fleming or Low-Dutch thinker, writes in a ruthlessly lucid medium such as is the French language, in which the lights and shades of mysticism appear sheer idiocy and balderdash. Then, too, Maeterlinck as a symbolist uses words as symbols of whole realms of thought, often far removed from their common import.

Mr. Roper points out the paucity of Maeterlinck's literary repertoire:

"As a dramatist, he plays on an instrument of one string. He can present one character alone—the sensitive, timid, fascinating, misunderstood, doomed being, belonging only half to this world, homesick for fairyland, with strange spiritual insight and strange mental deficiencies. It is a real type, if a morbid one. Then Maeterlinck sets forth the mystic love of such a creature with her masculine counterpart, and the doom of both. He also hints at the silent tragedies that lie behind common life, and images forth the terror of imminent death. Has he done more than this? I do not think so. His personages are not human beings, hardly even types. We should not know one of them if we met him in the street. They express nothing; they call attention rather to what is unexpressed and inexpressible. Their silences, some critics have said, are more eloquent than any speech. But is this really the fact?

"Here we come on the important question that determines Maeterlinck's true place. Is the eloquence of his pauses really his own, or supplied by the audience? Is his queer Ollendorfian dialog the trellis for flower and fruits of spiritual meaning, or is it a weak and wooden crossing of laths? A symbolist may be defined as a man who says something else. Unable or unwilling to put his thoughts into definite words, he uses certain terms or metaphors to shadow it forth. Hence, symbolism is only justifiable, from an artistic point of view, when the real meaning of the writer can not be put into plain words, or can not be so expressed in proper artistic form. Beyond this, symbolism is unnecessary, and simply irritating. A painter may and indeed must indicate, by a symbolic use of color, certain effects that no paint can render; but for him wilfully to abstain from rendering what *can* be rendered truthfully would be coxcombry."

We all have this sort of eloquence, remarks Mr. Roper, and can all outvie Shakespeare and Homer in the dim recesses of our inner consciousness, in our "dreams between sleeping and waking." The rub is when we sit down to think out our dreams and write out our thoughts. Why should the silences in Maeterlinck's dialog be credited with an infinity of meaning? Says Mr. Roper:

"Never—or hardly ever—do his characters utter the inevitably right word of passion or emotion, the one speech that the person would say. It is cruel to contrast the riotous exuberance of Shakespeare's young fancy with the absolute Ollendorf of 'La Princesse Maleine.' Take the famous dialog of the Cowherd and the Nurse:

> COWHERD: Good evening!
> NURSE: Good evening!
> COWHERD: It is a fine evening.'
> NURSE: Yes, fine enough.
> COWHERD: Thanks to the moon.
> NURSE: Yes.
> COWHERD: But it has been hot during the day.
> NURSE: Oh! yes, it *has* been hot during the day.
> COWHERD (*going down to the water*): I am going to bathe (etc.).

This is not simplicity; it is impotence. And it is the same in moments of strong emotion. The characters never speak out their souls like Lear over the dead Cordelia. They simply repeat ejaculations three times. Hjalmar finds his love lying murdered, and this is all he has to say:

> Yes! yes! yes! Oh! oh! Come! come! Strangled! strangled! Maleine! Maleine! Maleine! Strangled! strangled! strangled! Oh! oh! oh! Strangled! strangled! strangled!"

If this be tragedy, says Mr. Roper, then can tragedy be written with a *rubber stamp!*

Walt Whitman in Symphony.—Whitman has always been more of a prophet in England than in his own country, altho his fame in America has been steadily growing since his death. It is, therefore, rather fitting that England, which first gave pronounced critical recognition to Whitman's verse, should pay him the tribute of interweaving his verse with music. Mr. William M. Thomas, editor of *The American Art Journal* (March 24), writing of the new "Walt Whitman Symphony" just put forth in London by Mr. William Henry Bell, remarks that to English critics Whitman's "barbaric yawp" is what Wagner's music is to passionate lovers of the music drama. Whitman, to them, is something more than a man "clad in skins and eating wild honey"—he is, in the fullest sense of the word, a prophet,

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with a new message in a new measure, which, when rightly understood, is full of music as well as of prophetic utterance. The "Whitman Symphony," says the writer, is in length and massiveness well adapted to the poet's manner of expression and thought:

"Mr. Bell is the composer of the 'Canterbury Tales' and 'The Pardoner's Tale' (Chaucer). His 'Whitman Symphony' was to be produced at the Crystal Palace on March 10. We hope it may prove to be a work of interest. We learn from Percy Betts that in length it exceeds Schubert's great Symphony in C, requiring a full hour for its production. The London *Daily News* says that while it is so long that the second movement, a 'Humoresque with variations on an original theme and waltz finale,' had to be omitted, it is a work of marked ability. *The News* adds:

"'It seems a pity that young composers so often fail to perceive the merits of condensation. The symphony is not "program" music, but it bears as motto Whitman's lines "To Mine Own Folk," and the opening allegro is to a certain extent influenced by the American poet's "Song of the Broad Ax." The third, entitled "Elegy," was doubtless suggested by the "lovely and soothing death," which has already formed the subject of an English cantata. It starts with a mournful subject, given out alternately by horns and wood wind, and followed by a funeral march, with a brighter cantabile second subject, the music, after much development and varied treatment, ultimately dying away till it becomes inaudible. The last movement is optimistic, and the coda may suggest "The show passes, all does well enough of course." The symphony is dated September 11, 1899.'"

LITERATURE AS A PROFESSION.

MANY well-known English writers, including the perennial Sir Walter Besant and Mr. Richard Le Gallienne, had their say a few months ago on the subject of the literary calling, its advantages and drawbacks (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, August 26, November 4, 1899). Now comes Prof. Brander Matthews, in *The Forum* (April), to tell what he thinks about the profession of literature. In the first place, he says, the name is not a little vague. Such diverse callings as those of college professor, editor, lecturer are included in the term. Yet, says Professor Matthews, the object of journalism is almost the opposite of literature—the two arts are "incompatible and almost hostile, the one to the other":

"The man of letters is almost the exact antithesis of the newspaper man. He seeks above all things to express himself—to give form to a something within him that is striving to be born, to body forth his own vision of life, to record once for all his own understanding of the universe. He toils joyfully, without haste and without rest, never quitting his work till he has done his best by it, until at last he knows it to be as perfect as he can make it, however dissatisfied he may remain with his final achievement. The object of his effort may seem but a trifle—a little lyric or the briefest of short stories; yet he never relaxes his standard, believing that the Tanagra figurines called for as keen a conscience in the artist as the Attic marbles themselves. Tho he may work swiftly when the mood is on him and the Muse inspires, he is never in a hurry. And where the journalist writes every night what must be forgotten before the next new moon, the man of letters may keep to himself what he has done, even for seven years, as Horace advised; and in all that time again and again he may bestow on it ungrudgingly the loving labor of the file.

"Thus we see that journalism is a craft while literature is an art; and that the two callings are almost irreconcilable. The practise of one of them tends to unfit a man for the practise of the other. There are journalists, not a few, who have become men of letters, and there are men of letters who have gone on newspapers; but I can not recall the name of any man who won equal fame in both vocations. Bryant was a poet who was also the chief editorial writer of a daily newspaper; and one of his biographers tells us how careful Bryant was to do all his journalistic writing in the office of the paper itself, leaving his own home free from any taint of contemporary pressure. And there is an anecdote of Bryant that illuminates the conditions of journalism. A friend repeatedly urged him to advocate a certain cause, and supplied him with facts and arguments in its behalf. Finally, an article appeared, and Bryant asked his friend if it was not satisfactory—if it was not good? The friend responded at once that the article was too good altogether, too complete, too final, since Bryant had said in it all he had to say on the subject, and, therefore, would not recur to it again, whereas what his friend had wanted was, that the editor should take up the case and keep on writing about it, day in and day out, until he had really aroused public interest in it."

Neither is the lecturer or the college professor necessarily a man of letters, says the writer. Both lecturing and teaching are *per se* wholly apart from the main purpose of the literary artist. And yet literature is in many cases—perhaps generally—the by-product of other professions:

"At the present time there are in the United States half a dozen novelists, as many dramatists, perhaps an essayist or two, or a poet by chance, each of whom receives from his literary labors alone enough to live on; and there are probably twice as many in Great Britain. But for the large majority of the men of letters of to-day, literature is still what it was in Charles Lamb's time—'a very bad crutch, but a very good walking-stick.' For example, when the Authors' Club was organized in New York, in 1882, by seven men of letters, only one of them was then supported wholly by literature—a novelist who happened also to be the writer of certain school-books; and of the other six one was a stock-broker, one was the editor of a magazine, two were journalists, and two had private means of their own. Among the members of the Authors' Club of late years, there have usually been ten or a dozen of the officers of instruction of Columbia University who chanced to be authors as well as professors.

"Perhaps another fact will show how wide the membership of such a body must needs be. Mr. McKinley has sent five members of the Authors' Club abroad as ministers and ambassadors—Mr. Hay to London, General Porter to Paris, Mr. White to Berlin, Mr. Hardy to Athens, and Mr. Straus to Constantinople. And in doing this the President was but abiding liberally by a precedent of more than one of his predecessors. Irving was minister to Spain, Motley to Austria and to Great Britain, Bancroft and Bayard Taylor to Germany, Lowell to Spain and Great Britain. In this, the great American commonwealth has been following the example of the little Italian republics, which were wont to send men of letters—Dante and Petrarch and Boccaccio—on missions of importance, perhaps desirous only to make use of their learning, and perhaps perceiving in the literary artist himself some special fitness for a delicate task.

"However few the men of letters may be to-day who are supported by literature, pure and simple, they are not less numerous than they were yesterday. In our own language especially, the conditions of literature as a profession whereby a man may earn his living are far more favorable in the present than they ever were in the past. The expansion on both sides of the Atlantic, the swiftness of communication, the spread of education, the granting of international copyright have all united to pay the author a reward for his work never before offered. Shakespeare, at the end of the nineteenth century, would not need to be an actor to make a living. Neither would Molière, since we have also international stage-right. And Homer would not be forced to go on the road giving author's readings, in his time the sole resource of the epic poet.

"Whether this will be altogether a gain may be doubted. It did not hurt Homer's epic that he was rewarded for reciting it at the banquets of the rich. It did not injure Molière and Shakespeare as playwrights that they were also players; of a certainty it helped them. It is not well for the man of letters that he should be free from close contact with the rest of mankind. It is not the worst that can happen to a genius that he should be forced to rub elbows with the common run of humanity. . . . . .

"Hawthorne it was who declared that 'the only sensible ends of literature are, first, the pleasurable toil of writing; second, the gratification of one's family and friends; and, lastly, the solid cash.' And Stevenson insisted that 'no other business offers a man his daily bread upon such joyful terms; the direct returns—the wages of the trade—are small, but the indirect—the wages of the life—are incalculably great.' Thus Stevenson speaks of the artist at large; and as to the man of letters he maintains that 'he labors in a craft to which the whole material of his life

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is tributary, and which opens a door to all his tastes, his loves, his hatreds, and his convictions, so that what he writes is only what he longed to utter. He may have enjoyed many things in this big, tragic playground of the world; but what shall he have enjoyed more?'

"The profession of literature is not for those who long for the flesh-pots of Egypt, as it is not for those who dwell in the Bohemia which is a desert country by the sea. It is not for those who do not enjoy its toil and who do not love it for its own sake. It is not for those who are thinking rather of the wages than of the work. Above all, it is not for those who have a high standard of wages and a low standard of work."

THE "JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA" AND THE NEW JEWISH SCHOLARSHIP.

A BANQUET was given in London a few weeks ago by members of the Maccabean and Jewish historical societies to Mr. Joseph Jacobs, who was then about to depart for America to assume an editorial position in connection with the projected Jewish Encyclopedia. Mr. Jacobs improved the occasion by bringing out a number of interesting facts regarding this work, now well under way, and the growth of Jewish scholarship, particularly in the New World. In his address, as reported in *The Jewish Chronicle* (London, February 23), Mr. Jacobs says of the new encyclopedia:

"Almost every Jewish scholar of note in America, England, and the Continent has given his adhesion to the scheme, and if carried out on the lines indicated in the prospectus, it ought to summarize the long line of research on Jewish matters that has been carried on through the nineteenth century. The twelve volumes should present to the world the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth about that very interesting personality the Jew. . . . On almost all these lines an immense mass of work has been done recently by a few in the Anglo-Saxon world. The Talmud and how it has been formed—the inner life of the medieval Jews—the family histories of the chief representatives of the modern Jews—the Bible and its influence on Jewish medieval literature—the paradox and eironeia of the modern Jewish position—all these have been sought out and thought out till they can be presented with some approach to accuracy and fulness in encyclopedic form. Zunz and Rappaport at the beginning of the century began to build the stately dome of Jewish science. Masses of inquiries have dealt with the history of Jews in all lands. The bibliography of Jewish books, the thoughts of the Jewish sages and philosophers, even the numbers of every petty Ghetto in all Europe can now be accurately known. Above all, Jewish bibliography has been organized into a science, and every book or article on a Jewish subject can now be identified and consulted. We of the Jewish Encyclopedia can enter into the labors of Zunz, Steinschneider, Graetz, and their many followers in many lands. If we can adequately sum up their labors in alphabetic form, we shall, I consider, be doing a great work for the Jewish cause, both within and without the community. Externally, there will be, for the first time in the census of the world, an adequate census of what Jews have done for it, and a refutation, in the cold light of fact, of what Jews have been alleged to do against the highest interests of civilization. The long roll of Jewish literati, whatever be the value of their productions, will prove at least that many Jews have at any rate devoted their lives to something other than mere money-grubbing. Are the Jews accused of working more with the brain than the hands—if that be called an accusation—look at the encyclopedia article upon artisans among the Jews, and see there enumerated some 700,000 working with muscle for a scanty pittance.

"And internally, also, we shall at last have the very problems which disunited us brought consciously to focus. Disputed questions we propose to treat stereoscopically. We shall have Zionism treated by a Zionist and an anti-Zionist, and the greatest freedom of truth ought to result from the collocation. When the encyclopedia is completed we may use the noble words of Zola in a new sense, that the truth is afoot and must prevail. There is sad occasion, as we all know, for such a presentation of the Jewish truth. It has been obscured by malignity almost throughout the civilized world, except in Anglo-Saxondom. This new imperialism and militarism that is seen in the whole of the world is almost necessarily brought into conflict with the Jewish system, which consciously or unconsciously, willy nilly, must in every country form an *Imperium in imperio.* 'Cosmopolitanism,' the enemy calls it; but what, after all, is that cosmopolitanism but the recognition of the essential unity and fraternity of mankind? May it not be one of the many missions of Israel to break down the barriers of international hatred and internecine strife? The ideals of the French Revolution are somewhat discredited nowadays; but wherever he is, the Jew must stand for liberty, equality, and fraternity."

Commenting editorially upon this address, *The Jewish Chronicle* (March 2) says:

"We doubt whether the full importance of the projected Jewish Encyclopedia, in connection with which Mr. Joseph Jacobs is leaving England for America, is fully grasped by the community, or is likely to be realized until a number of its twelve volumes have been in use for some time. But an attempt may already be made to gage the value of this vast undertaking. It is a work which has never been attempted before. Such fragments of it as are comprised in the German encyclopedias of Hamburger and Herzog and the English dictionaries of Smith, Kitts, McClintock and Strong, Cheyne, and Hastings have proved of immense help to Jewish students. A complete encyclopedia, written for the most part by Jewish scholars and from a Jewish point of view, should prove invaluable. . . . Not to speak of the benefits it will confer on historical and scientific research and the encouragement it will give to Jewish study among Jews, it is certain that a work of this character will serve a humanitarian purpose and tend to the removal of prejudice."

The Rev. Dr. Bernhard Drachman, writing in *The American Hebrew* (March 9), after alluding to some misapprehensions as to the character of the work which prevailed when the announcement of the Jewish Encyclopedia was first made, remarks that these have now all been removed, and "a great chorus of approval is heard from all parts of the Jewish world testifying to the beneficial and highly desirable character" of the undertaking:

"Such a work must teach even the most ignorant or careless what it means to be a Jew, to belong to a people which has left such a deep mark upon the history of the world, and which nothing could induce to fall away from the One, Ever-living God. Indeed, the Encyclopedia will not be so much a glorification of Israel; it will rather be—to quote a much-abused but still impressive phrase—'*Ad majorem Dei gloriam.*'"

The Encyclopedia was first projected by Dr. Isidore Singer, of Vienna, who, finding the conditions for such an undertaking in Europe not improved by the antisemitic wave, came to this country two years ago and succeeded in completing his arrangements. More than three hundred scholars, it is announced, are now at work upon the Encyclopedia under the supervision of Cyrus Adler, Ph.D., Gotthard Deutsch, Ph.D., Richard Gottheil, Ph.D., Marcus Jastrow, Ph.D., Morris Jastrow, Ph.D., Kaufman Kohler, Ph.D., Crawford H. Toy, D.D., LL.D., Isidore Singer, Ph.D., and Joseph Jacobs.

A New French Tragedy —M. Henri de Bornier's new historical play, "France d'abord!" ("France above all!"), dealing with the period of Louis IX., has been one of the events of the present season on the Parisian stage, and has on the whole met with favor from the dramatic critics. From the *Revue Encyclopédique Larousse* (February 10), we take the following critique of the play by Georges Pellisier:

"The time is in the minority of Louis IX., during the regency of Blanche of Castile; and it is the spirit of Blanche of Castile which seems to brood over the tragic scenes. Arrayed against her are the courtiers, and among them are two, present as ambassadors, who enjoin her to choose a husband who shall be regent. These two lords are Thibault, Count of Champagne, and Hugonnel, Count of Boulogne, the latter brother to Louis VIII., and

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brother-in-law to Blanche of Castile. She, however, repels Hugonnel, who, sent as an ambassador, returns an enemy; but she falls under the influence of Thibault, for whom she feels a secret love. The theme of the tragedy is, in brief, the wavering of Blanche in the face of her destiny, the struggle between the mother who would preserve the crown for her son, and the woman who wishes to live with her lover. Hugonnel determines to revenge himself for the refusal of the queen, and conspires with his niece, Aliénor, who has been injured by Blanche of Castile. This Aliénor, on the coronation day of Louis IX., is to place on the head of the young king a poisoned crown. Filled with remorse, however, she places it upon her own head. She dies and Hugonnel is made prisoner; and as this *finale* is not sufficient, another is provided in a duel between Thibault and Hugonnel, resulting in the latter's death and the departure of Thibault to Palestine, carrying with him the secret of his love for Blanche of Castile."

The play at this point parts with history, which does not present this love in so platonic a light, but makes Thibault both a fortunate and a culpable lover, expiating in the Crusades the violent death of Louis VIII. M. Pellisier objects to the play for this departure from historical truth. "Why choose historical personages merely to travesty them?" he asks. "It is, as it were, a confession of impotence to warp the truth of history in its terrible puissance, and I feel certain that Blanche of Castile, just as she was, far surpassed in interest the vague figure shown at the Odéon by M. de Barnier." Other critics, including Emile Faguet, Gustave Larroumet, and Henry Bauer, speak favorably of the play.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE HISTORICAL NOVEL AND ITS RECENT SUCCESSES.

THE most marked feature in American fiction of the past year has been the predominance of the historical novel. Of the six most popular novels in the month of January, 1900, four—"Richard Carvel, "Janice Meredith," "When Knighthood Was in Flower," and "Via Crucis"—have historical scenes for their background. The latest success—and, considering the question of time, the greatest success of all—is Miss Johnson's "To Have and to Hold," a novel dealing with early colonial days in Virginia. The latter book is already, at the end of little over a month, in its hundred and thirty-fifth thousand, while at least three of the first mentioned books are still in the high tide of their popularity. These facts are startling literary phenomena, and, as a recent critic has remarked, "if they do not give what Adam Smith calls a 'fillip to the trade,' it will be because authors lack the commercial sense." We are not unlikely to be flooded by a downpour of historical novels during the next twelvemonth, and to have all the scenes of history, from Noah, the primeval sailor of history, to Cæsar, Charlemagne, Napoleon, and possibly Kruger, served up to us with every variety of literary spicing. Those contemplating historico-fictional authorhood need not, according to the literary critic of the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, feel backward by reason of a distrust of their personal equipmen. "Any man," he says, "with a literary temperament and a capacity for compilation, stands a very good chance of success in this field." And he further encourages the incipient author in the following strain:

"The critics are bland and the public cordial, and there will be plenty of people to say that the fifth historical novel is better than any of the preceding four, and the sixth is more wonderful yet. And while hard work is necessary, it is a kind of work that can be systematized and makes comparatively slight drain on the creative force. It is a good, straightforward, definite job, with materials ready to your hand. A part of it consists in rearranging certain well-tried properties, and some parts could almost be let out on sub-contract. Almost any one will soon be able to handle the George Washington scenes, and duels will become a mere matter of clerical routine.

"The public thus far has shown no disposition to discriminate between what a man invents and what he reproduces. This is what makes it easy. You do not have to create an atmosphere. It is already made for you. Historical associations will help you out when your art fails. Rig a man up in small clothes and silk stockings, give him a sword and a peruke and four or five old expletives, and a hot temper and a brave heart, and the thing is half done. Put in a few 'ans' and ''tweres' and ''tises' and 'say I's' and the conversation will fit any past century you like. In the older historical novel they reproduced the spirit of ancient Rome or Jerusalem by making all the characters say thee and thou and talk generally like the Book of Common Prayer, but at present one or two archaisms suffice, and there need be no consistency in their use. Richard Carvel's conversation often spans three centuries in a single sentence. But none of these things are noticed if enough happens. That is the one relentless law of the present historical novel. The hero must be kept busy from beginning to end, with never an instant's pause in heroism. There is no interest in him apart from what happens to him. The art that can so build a character that he holds you whether he is doing anything worth mentioning or not is not needed here. For the business of clinging to the masts of sinking ships, hurling back insults in other people's teeth, standing unmoved amid fearful carnage, and waiting for a proud, capricious beauty to recognize his worth, there is scarcely any need of a character at all. He is not a man but a literary storm center, and requires only four or five large, plain virtues and a good physique."

This is nothing against the historical novel in itself, the writer thinks. These books do a useful work, and at least leave the reader no worse off for reading them. They are monuments of diligence; and, since on the whole they have more facts than fallacies, they serve to impress some lessons of history upon their readers' minds.

NOTES.

The Criterion will soon appear in monthly form under the management of Mr. Francis Bellamy, who has had experience editorially with *The Youth's Companion* and *The Ladies' Home Journal*. The editor-in-chief is to be Mr. Albert White Vorse, who also brings editorial experience from newspaper work.

ANOTHER romance of the French Revolution is soon to make its appearance, written by Mr. William Sage. The book will be entitled "Robert Tournay," and will deal with many familiar characters, among them Robespierre, Danton, and General Hoche. The fact that even before its publication (by Houghton, Mifflin & Company) the dramatization of Mr. Sage's book is being arranged, makes it safe to assume that "Robert Tournay" will be full of dramatic incidents in its love element.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S play, "The Iron Tooth," does not seem to have met with much success in Berlin, altho not all the papers take that view of the case. The play, whose moral "is submission of the people to their Emperor," was beautifully staged, and the chief characters were entrusted to find performers who have received honors from the Emperor playwright. The Berlin correspondent of the New York *Herald* says: "The acting and *mis-en-scène* were marvelous. The costumes were most beautiful, and the scenery such as has seldom been seen in the Royal Theater." But as the play progressed, disapproval became so manifest that, one report says, a number of the audience, ignoring the axiom 'The King can do no wrong,' came to the conclusion that the royal play was no good." After such a reception, many papers are doubtful as to the final issue of the play.

DR. WILLIAM R. HARPER thinks that the league of representative colleges formed recently at Chicago is "the most important movement that has taken place in higher education in this country in fifty years." The objects of the association are declared to be all matters of common interest relating to graduate study. It will also consider the advisability of requesting foreign universities not to admit American students to the examination for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy unless they have already presented a bachelor's degree from an American college or university. The chief aim of the organization, therefore, is to enable American institutions of learning to work in harmony and to raise and make uniform the requirements for higher degrees. It is thought that such united action will raise the standard of many colleges which otherwise now do not meet requirements for graduate work. Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Cornell, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California, the University of Chicago, Leland Stanford University, the Catholic University of America, the University of Michigan, the University of Wisconsin, and Clark University have thus far cooperated in the movement, and it is hoped that other institutions will seek admittance into the association. Such united action will have a twofold influence, not only making a Doctor's degree mean more, but also keeping the graduate student abroad in touch with the university at home.

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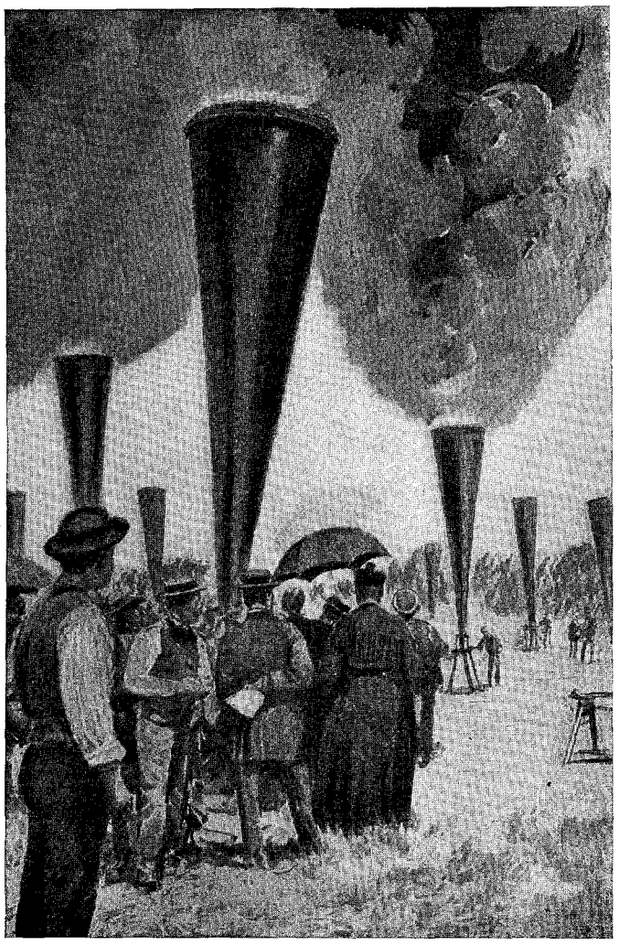
SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

THE PREVENTION OF HAIL.

EXPERIMENTS made in various parts of Europe on devices for the prevention of hail-storms by creating an explosive disturbance of the air have already been described in these columns. We now give a translation of an illustrated article contributed to *La Science Illustrée* by M. Victor Delosière, describing the latest work along this line. The matter has passed the



HAIL PREVENTERS RECENTLY EXPERIMENTED WITH, AT MONZA, ITALY.

experimental stage apparently, and we may expect to hear soon that it has been taken up in this country also. M. Delosière first reminds us that hail is a local phenomenon of thunder-storms, rare in the tropics, unknown in the polar regions, and of greatest frequency in temperate zones, especially in hilly localities, where they follow valleys and avoid forests. He briefly states the various theories of its formation, from that of Volta, in which electrical attraction and repulsion played a part, to the one generally accepted at present, which assumes that the hailstones are sustained, during their formation, by a rotary air current. All these theories of hail, however, are of more interest to the meteorologist than to the farmer, who is most anxious to know how to protect himself against its effects. How can he do this? First, of course, there is insurance, and many agriculturists avail themselves of this; but there is now a method by which hail-storms may be actually prevented. Says M. Delosière:

"The question of defense against hail was solved when it was proposed to combat it with artillery. Powder was first used in this way on the assumption that it would cause rain, and later, by M. Albert Stieger, with the idea that it would prevent the formation of hail.

"This idea may seem absolutely original, but this is a great error. There is nothing new under the sun! The ancient Romans were acquainted with the phylloxera before us, and they used, like us, artificial clouds of smoke to protect their vines from nocturnal frosts. We will doubtless be told some day that they would also have known of the hail-protector mortars, only powder was not invented in their day. But altho the Romans had not these mortars, it is plainly shown by ancient accounts that various farmers of the seventeenth century used the explosion of powder to prevent hail from falling on their fields. It was also believed in that day that thunder-storms could be driven off by firing guns and ringing bells.

"These facts were completely unknown to M. Stieger, and of course do not detract from the credit due to him. In 1896 this proprietor of vineyards, the burgomaster of Windisch-Freistritz, having replanted part of his lands on the Schnitzberg, adopted the following plans to protect the young plants against hail-storms, to which this treeless region is now much exposed.

"Along a line about 6 kilometers [3½ miles] and at elevated points, he set up six brass mortars weighing each about 80 kilometers [180 pounds]: each mortar was about 3 centimeters [1⅕ inches] in diameter and was 50 centimeters [20 inches] long. M. Stieger organized a corps of volunteers composed of inhabitants of the neighborhood.

"During the first experiment, black and threatening masses of clouds advanced from the neighboring mountains. The fire of the mortars began, and after several minutes the clouds stopped, dissipated, and dispersed without sending down hail or rain on the protected region.

"The experiment was repeated six times in the course of the summer, always with success.

"So in 1897 the number of stations was increased: there were thirty-three in that year and fifty-six in 1898 in the same region.

"The effect of a violent disturbance of the air in preventing a hail-storm may be explained if we suppose that the superfusion of water plays a part in the formation of hail. The little drops would solidify separately on formation and could not unite to form large hailstones. The phenomenon would thus be in some sort regularized. On account of the excellent effects obtained with hail-protecting mortars the farmers of Venetia and Piedmont have established associations of defense against hail.

"It seems certain now that a mortar fitted with a conical mouthpiece can protect a circular space 500 to 700 meters [1,650 to 2,300 feet] in diameter. It is thus sufficient to space these novel pieces of artillery from 1 kilometer to 1½ kilometers apart. Experiments have been lately made at Monza, Italy, to determine the best form for the conical mouthpiece, its proper dimensions, and the charge of powder necessary to give a satisfactory result. They seemed to be quite conclusive.

"Our southern cultivators of the vine, who suffer such injury yearly from devastating hail-storms, are beginning to be moved by these facts. During the discussion of the agricultural budget a question was put to the minister on the subject. He promised to encourage experiments, and these will take place during the course of next summer. We shall keep our readers informed of the results."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Oxygen from Liquid Air.—It has been predicted by all those who are familiar with the properties of liquid air, which has only of late been obtainable on a large scale, that one of its chief uses would be in the separation of the atmospheric oxygen from its nitrogen. It has been assumed that this would be effected by mere evaporation of the liquid product, since the nitrogen is the more volatile of the two gases. According to the daily press, however, a method has been discovered by Prof. Raoul Pictet, of Geneva, Switzerland, one of the most eminent scientific men of the world in all that pertains to processes involving intense cold, by which the gases may be separated without liquefaction, altho liquid air must be used in the process to obtain the necessary low temperature. The process, we are told by *The Scientific American*, is about to be introduced in New York on a commercial scale. It consists in forcing through liquid air under a pressure of only about one atmosphere a stream of atmospheric air. This is cooled in the liquid air, and as it rises

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its component gases separate by gravity and run off in tubes, the oxygen through the lower tube, and the nitrogen above. The carbonic acid, which exists in the air as an impurity, leaves the machine as a liquid. It is promised that with an expenditure of 500 horse-power, 500,000 cubic feet of oxygen, 1,000,000 cubic feet of nitrogen, and 1,500 pounds of liquid carbonic acid will be produced. The chief market which Professor Pictet expects to find for the oxygen is to support combustion at high temperatures in furnaces where coal is burned. In burning fuel with the oxygen of the air, there must be admitted to the furnace about three times the bulk of oxygen or nitrogen, and this absorbs a large quantity of the heat. By admitting oxygen Professor Pictet thinks that 40 per cent. of the present fuel bill can be saved.

AN ALPINE MYSTERY.

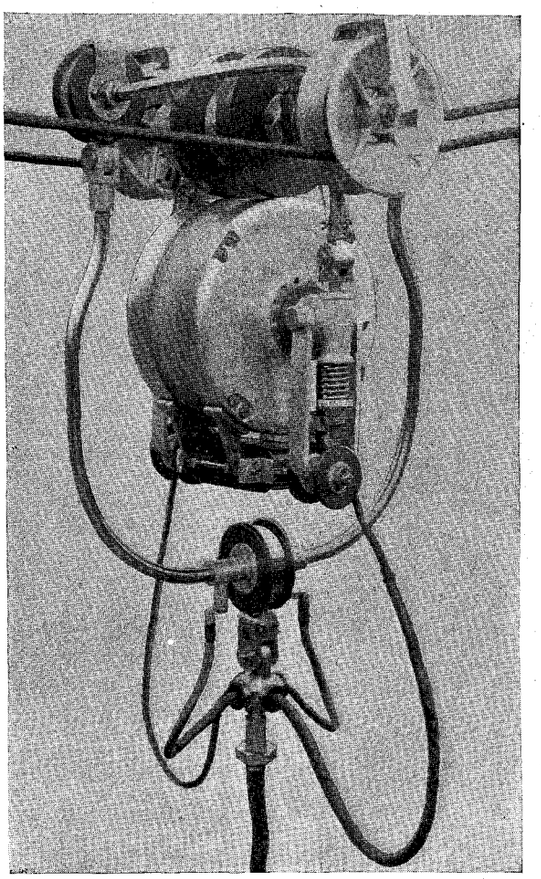
UNDER the title, "A Strange Luminous Phenomenon," Dr. Albert Battandier contributes to *Cosmos* (March 10) an account of a curious moving flame or light, observed nightly near a small Italian town. No satisfactory explanation seems yet to have been made, altho the appearance possibly belongs to the little-studied class of which the so-called "will-o'-the-wisp" is a type. The phenomenon appears near the Alpine village of Berbenna, where it has been seen nearly every night for about twenty years. It consists of a flame, ordinarily whitish, but sometimes colored, which moves in a definite course down a road and through vineyards, sometimes rapidly and sometimes pausing. Sometimes several flames appear, which unite into a single one at a certain point in their course. Says Dr. Battandier:

"The flame is constant in its effects. . . . It avoids man, and when it is approached it recedes more or less swiftly, according to the speed of the pursuit. . . . The forms of the flame vary infinitely—it appears as a cone, a globe, or a fiery serpent, and tranquilly glows or spits out sparks; it is 5 centimeters to 8 meters [2 inches to 25 feet] above the ground, moving along on the surface or advancing by leaps, and often stops abruptly. It sometimes disappears as if hidden by the tree-trunks; at other times it gives so bright a light that it illuminates the whole country. . . . . .

"The wind has no effect on its movement, . . . and rain and snow neither diminish nor extinguish its brilliancy. It has no fixed hours, but usually appears early in the night. When it has once shown itself it appears no more during the night, but its journey may last several hours."

These particulars, we are told, were gathered by Carlo Fabiani, and are published by him in the last volume of the transactions of the *Nuovi Lincei Pontificii*. Dr. Battandier notes that the whole matter can scarcely be said to have been adequately investigated, as this would require several trained observers and a series of experiments, covering perhaps months of work. Fabiani, however, gives four explanations of the phenomenon, from which the reader may make his own selection. The first, Dr. Battandier remarks, is hardly scientific, being that advanced by the dwellers in the region, who assert that the flames are the visible manifestations of the souls of the departed, or, according to some occultists, the astral bodies of the defunct, seeking reincarnation. Secondly, we may account for the testimony by saying that the inhabitants of the region are suffering from collective hallucination. There is much in favor of this explanation, such as the different accounts of alleged observers and the reported impossibility of approaching the phenomenon. Of course a hallucination enduring for twenty years would be unusual, to say the least, but Dr. Battandier reminds us that the cause of the hallucination, namely, the superstitious tales of the peasants, has certainly lasted during that time, so that a continued recurrence of the apparition would not be so remarkable. Another theory is that we have here a special case of what the French call *feu follet*—"will o' the wisp." This is generally regarded as due to marsh-gas, or to phosphoretted hydrogen, and there is plenty of organic matter in the soil at Berbenno whose decomposition might produce these gases. But this does not explain why the flames did not appear until twenty years ago, nor why they move against the wind and always along the same course, appearing only once each night. Will-o'-the-wisps are proverbially capricious, and this phenomenon is more or less regular. A fourth explanation is that the flame is a "St. Elmo's fire"; in other words, an electrical brush-discharge; but this is open to precisely the same objection. Thus the matter is left unsettled, but Dr. Battandier notes several other cases of similar phenomena in Italy, and believes that by careful observation and comparison the mystery may be solved.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A Trolley Wire for Automobiles.—Several years ago we described and illustrated an experiment made in Greenwich, Conn., with an automobile stage using an overhead trolley wire. The plan was not successful enough to come into regular use, but a modification and extension of it is now being tried in France, and promises to be practically successful. An interesting feature of it is that the trolley-wheel itself is furnished with a small motor, which propels it along the overhead wire in advance of the carriage. Two trolleys and two wires are necessary, for of course there are no rails to provide a return circuit. The trial is taking place on a line somewhat over half a mile in length on a road along the Seine just outside the limits of Paris, the inventor of the system being M. Lombard-Gerin. An article in *L'Industrie Electrique* by Professor Hospitalier descriptive of the mechanism is abstracted in *The Electrical World and Engineer* (March 10), to which we are indebted for the facts. It is the opinion of Professor Hospitalier that the applications of this system are innumerable. The service of existing lines of road may be extended to serve localities the traffic of which is not sufficiently important to justify the extension of the main line.



TROLLEY MOTOR.

Courtesy of *The Electrical World and Engineer*.

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Trolley-fed carriages in this case would constitute secondary lines, whose aerial wires, traversing the country, would also place at the disposal of farmers a source of power for agricultural work. From a central generating station lines could extend to the suburbs, to railway stations, manufacturing works, etc., thus creating at little expense a new market for current.

HEATING A TOWN WATER-SUPPLY.

TO attempt to warm the whole water-supply of a city by means of electrical heaters placed in the intake-pipes would seem at first sight almost absurd, yet the authorities of Marquette, Mich., believe they have hit upon a plan of warming the water of Lake Superior in just this way, altho the rise of temperature is to be only sufficient to prevent freezing. By carrying this plan into effect at a cost of $25, they consider they have saved $50,000 to $100,000 by making it unnecessary to change the location of the pumping-station and intake-pipe. Says E. J. Hart in an account of the plan contributed to *The Electrical World and Engineer*:

"For many winters past the city has been greatly bothered by ice from the lake, which has choked up the intake-pipe so as to entirely shut off the water-supply and necessitate the closing down of the pumping-station. This has occurred dozens of times in the past few years, and water famines have resulted annually. It has been necessary in each case of a 'choke-up' to thaw out the mouth of the intake with salt, but this has only remedied the evil temporarily, and after some delay and a great deal of trouble. The trouble has grown to such proportions that the question of spending many thousands of dollars to change the location of the intake-pipe and pumping-station had been agitated."

The trouble at Marquette, Mr. Hart tells us, was not with the surface ice, but with "needle ice," as it is called. Surface ice is a protection to the intake, and the trouble comes when the ice-fields are carried out of the bay by winds which prevent new surface ice from forming. The water freezes then in minute needle-like crystals, and millions of these mass together and are carried into the intake-pipe. The vertical section of the pipe is two feet in diameter, but the masses of ice are sufficient to entirely block it. To quote again:

"About three weeks ago a famine of unusual severity resulted from an ice blockade of this sort, and the city water board solicited the assistance of some local engineers to remedy the trouble; if possible, permanently. Superintendent Charles Retallic, of the municipal electric light and power plant, was one of these, and he devised a plan by which it is hoped to do away with the evil entirely. The plan provides for an electric heater of cylindrical form, hung concentrically within the opening of the vertical section of the intake-pipe. This heater was completed and put in place last week, and it will be tested as soon as the wind again carries away the surface ice and the conditions are suited to the formation of the fine ice particles that cause the trouble.

"The heater is of the iron resistance-coil pattern, and the only novelty about it lies in its adaptation to the use for which it is intended. It consists of an inner and outer drum of galvanized iron, respectively 19 and 21 inches in diameter, and both 5 feet in length. The inner drum has flanges at the ends extending outward, and to these the outer drum is soldered. The inner cylinder was wrapped with asbestos sheeting to a depth of nearly half an inch, and around this were wrapped convolutions of No. 18 iron wire, in one continuous spiral. Terminals were carried through the flange at one end, through water-tight gaskets of heat-proof insulating material. Iron shoulders are riveted to the apparatus, and by means of these it is hooked over the top of the intake-pipe. It extends from the top of the vertical section of the intake to within two feet of the horizontal section, and the former only stands seven feet high.

"Current is supplied from the electric-light wires at the water-works plants on the beach. It is carried through conductors intended for submarine service, and where the wires enter the water they pass through a conduit of iron piping to protect them from shore ice. The stove will generate enough heat, it is believed, to melt all the needle ice before it passes through the cylinder. The plan is not to keep it in constant use, but only when the conditions of the weather are favorable to the formation of this sort of ice."

WANTED: SOME CABLE-SHIPS.

THE United States is at present notably deficient in appliances for making and laying submarine cables, so that if we are to build a transpacific cable without aid from our English cousins, we shall have at once to set about erecting plants for manufacturing the necessary cable and must build or buy ships with which to lay it. *The Electrical Review* brings this important matter to the attention of the public in a leading editorial (March 21), in which it says:

"The process of manufacturing deep-sea cable of great length is one that is not generally understood. Almost equally important is the proper laying of the cable after it is made. In Europe the universal custom at present is for cables to be manufactured at points on deep water, the factories being adjacent to piers alongside of which the cable-ships lay, so that the cable is coiled up in the tanks on these vessels as rapidly as it is manufactured. In this way the unit of cable length is a shipful.

"To undertake successfully the building of the transpacific cable in this country will, therefore, necessitate the erection at the waterside of a sufficient plant or plants for its manufacture and the acquisition of several cable-ships to lay the individual sections. Such a factory with its machinery would cost about $1,000,000.

"There are in the world about thirty-five cable-ships, of which more than twenty-five fly the British flag. Not one is American. The construction of the cable will, therefore, necessitate the building of at least two cable-ships, at a cost of about $600,000 each. Their operation and other costs of transporting and laying the cable will bring this figure for the ships up to about $2,000,000 before the cable is laid. The cable itself will cost in the neighborhood of $13,000,000, this price being based on a length of seven thousand nautical miles and a price of thirty cents per foot of the finished cable."

The question of cable-ships, the writer asserts, is perhaps the most difficult one that we have to deal with. Such vessels can hardly be chartered for laying a seven-thousand-mile cable, for this cable will necessitate practically the continuous operation of one repair ship. The vessels must be able to handle long coils of cable and should be modern in all details. To quote further:

"It is also no mere sentiment that dictates the necessity for these ships to be of American register. It is stated on good authority that in some of the recent British cruisers and other naval craft provision has been made for cable tanks and cable handling, so that these ships can be used for cable laying, repairing, cutting, etc., when not required for their military functions. It would seem that this fact contains a valuable suggestion for us, and that some of the new United States cruisers of moderate size might well be fitted to undertake the task of laying the Pacific cable. This is not entirely sufficient, however, for repair ships, as was stated above, can not be dispensed with.

"The United States have a vast coast line and immense and growing maritime interests. They are the dominant power of the Pacific now, and their new territories in both Eastern and Western waters create an imperative demand for cable connections and facilities. They must have cable-making and laying plants. In the case of the transpacific cable the cost will be about $20,000,000. If it cost twice that much we should still need it sufficiently to build it. It must be built, and that quickly. Consequently, in view of the facts stated above, if any department of the Government is to undertake its construction, one of the first essentials is the cable-ships; provision for their construction or the alteration of other vessels to fit them for this duty should be made immediately."

It is not to be understood, of course, that we have no cable-manufacturing plant in this country; only that it has not hitherto been used for making long submarine cables, and that it is not

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situated in the necessary proximity to the Pacific Ocean. On this point *The Electrical World* says:

"Only those who are familiar with American cable factories and the quality and quantity of their output, can have an adequate conception of the tremendous growth of that industry in the United States. It is only in the branch of submarine cable work that our factories have been behind; and that is only for the reason that hitherto there has been little call or necessity for such work."

THE RAPIDITY OF MODERN INVENTIONS.

THE increasing speed with which useful inventions are introduced and perfected was dwelt upon by Sir W. H. Preece, the English electrician, in a recent address before the Association of Students of the English Institution of Civil Engineers. After some remarks on the dignity, responsibility, and opportunities of the profession, he alluded to the rapid differentiation of skill in modern times, and asserted that the progress of invention takes place at a compound rate. He said, according to a report in *The Electrical World and Engineer* (March 17):

"It took 3,000 years to mature the alphabet. It has taken 450 years to perfect printing, but 60 years in our days have matured telegraphy and photography, and only 60 months have been sufficient to apply Roentgen rays to assist the physician to apply his gentle art to restore to health the maimed and wounded."

Commenting upon this, the journal already mentioned says in its editorial column:

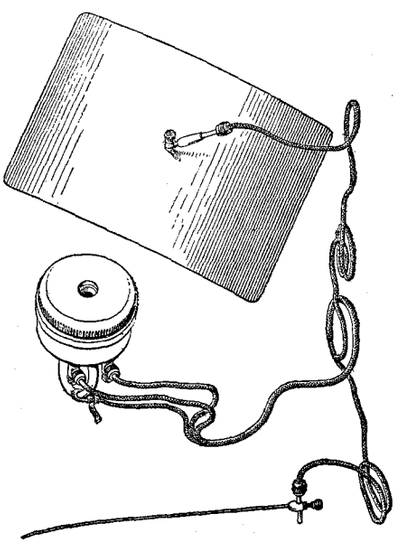
"This is ingenious, but risky reasoning. At such a rate, we ought soon to have startling, revolutionary inventions every fifteen minutes, so that instead of one bad quarter of an hour in the day there would be ninety-six. A kindly Providence forbids such things. Inventions not only have to be made, but they have to be digested and assimilated, and fortunately that takes time. Here in America we are always capitalizing the invention that is to be made to-morrow. In England they are just beginning to capitalize the trolley when we are taking to the conduit; and thus it runs all along the line. We would like to ask Sir William what great electrical invention has been made, not in the last fifteen minutes, but in the last fifteen months?

"But that is after all an aside, and when a man who has done so much for the practical engineering arts stands up to laud them, we are heartily with him. It is true, as he says, that 'the engineer is not only a benefactor to his race but he is a necessity of the age.' And more, without him this age of long peaces and short wars, of greater comfort, happiness, and general welfare would not be. As to the general education of the engineer, the opinion of Sir William is in line with the most recent thought. The first foundation, he says, is clearly a broad, solid, general education, not specialized in any way until the pupil has reached a stage where he can work and think for himself. The late Franklin L. Pope, who was a strong believer in this dogma, on one occasion pointed out to the writer that every member of the technical staff of a certain large manufacturing company had been graduated from an academic college course before taking up technical study. As to the rôle of mathematics in the education of an engineer, Sir William calls it the shorthand of thought and the purest form of logic; this, together with 'experiment, the handmaid of observation, measurement, the instigator of accuracy and precision, and reasoning, the organ of common sense,' are denominated 'the tools that shape the store of knowledge which memory brings to his help when he is called upon to practise what has been learned.'"

Admiral Dewey and the Holland Boat.—Admiral Dewey does not seem to agree with the representatives of the navy who recently advised the Government not to purchase the Holland submarine torpedo-boat. He has sent to Representative Foss, acting chairman of the House naval committee, a report prepared by his aide, Lieut. H. H. Caldwell, on the trial of the boat in the Potomac on the 14th inst. According to *Electricity*, "Lieutenant Caldwell, who was on board the *Holland* during the trial, says that there was no accident or hitch of any sort. The mechanism worked easily, the crew was confident and skilful, the slight pitch of the boat on submersion disappeared when she attained the required depth, the torpedo was discharged with the greatest ease, and only a slight shock occurred when it left the tube. There was not the slightest confusion or hesitation in obeying orders. 'It is worthy of note,' says Lieutenant Caldwell, 'that from the first immersion the water as seen through the deadlights was entirely opaque, and at the maximum depth it looked entirely black. During the nearly three hours we were in the boat the air was entirely sweet.' Lieutenant Caldwell expresses the opinion that the duties of the crew could be easily performed by petty officers of the navy after a short trial. He says also that a determined enemy, with a submarine boat like the *Holland*, could have made the occupation of Manila Bay by Admiral Dewey's squadron impossible. In this and the other remarks of his aide, Admiral Dewey concurs."

A TELEPHONIC PROBE.

MOST of our readers will remember the "induction balance" with which President Garfield's surgeons unsuccessfully endeavored to locate the bullet that caused his death, and which figured largely in the sensational press reports of the day. The latest form of this instrument is a telephonic probe, which is thus illustrated and described in *The British Medical Journal* (March 10), quoting from a recent work on "Therapeutic Electricity":



TELEPHONE PROBE.

"It was De Wilde, a civil engineer, who (1872) first proposed the use of the electric bell as a signal of a metallic body in the tissues. An improvement on this is the telephone probe. Its action depends on the difference of potential between two different metals, and upon the delicacy with which the telephone will disclose an electric current so engendered. A thin sheet of pure silver is placed upon an indifferent part of the body, and attached by means of a wire having a telephone in circuit to a silver probe or heavily plated exploring needle. If the probe be inserted into the tissues the telephone is silent, because there is no difference of potential that the telephone will register; but immediately a metallic body other than silver is touched there is a fall of potential, a current is produced, and the telephone indicates the fact. Used to verify the localization of foreign metallic bodies whose presence has been shown by radiography, this probe is a strikingly effective device."

A PLEA for power-brakes on trolley cars is make by *The Electrical Review*. It says: "The modern forty-foot trolley car full of people weighs a good many tons. To start it with any reasonable degree of swiftness requires the expenditure, for a few seconds, of about one hundred horse-power. Naturally, to stop it with the same degree of celerity will require the same power. To start it powerful motors and heavy gearing are employed; to stop it, a brass handle about eighteen inches long with a more or less able-bodied man at the end of it is used. The consequence of this arrangement is that the newspapers keep standing in type head-lines like this: 'Another Trolley Horror!' 'The Deadly Juggernaut!' etc. Is there not a lesson to be learned from these well-known facts? It is not as if there were no power brakes to be had, for there are several varieties, all good and all tested by experience." The new cars of the Third Avenue Company in New York are equipped with power-brakes, which apparently give satisfaction.

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

"WHY MEN DO NOT GO TO CHURCH."

THE alleged decrease in church attendance during the past few years has called forth much discussion, and many reasons have been offered for the phenomenon. The cause has been variously attributed to the church itself, to the individual, to society as a whole, and sometimes to all three. This latter view is that taken by Dr. Cortland Myers in a little book entitled "Why Men Do Not Go to Church." The author begins with the weaknesses of the church, and his most important arguments may be thus epitomized:

Men demand a church adapted to the dawning hours of a new century. Everywhere new conditions arise which have to be met, and the minister must see that he advances with the advance of civilization, and not remain in the old ruts. The intelligent application of the Gospel is what is more needed: usefulness is to be considered before attractiveness, and a true religious sentiment is to be awakened before many worldly comforts are thought of. The financial element in church life should not be a prominent factor, as it is in so many instances at the present time.

Again, if we consider the minister, and his power in the pulpit, sincerity must be at the heart of all that comes from him. Men are drawn by earnestness and honesty, and frankness, more than by the beauty and fragrance of flowers. Truth is what man wants, not the straining after effect, which results in verboseness, for he will come only to hear the unvarnished truth, red-hot from a courageous heart.

On the subject of courting the rich, and boasting of wealthy parishioners, Dr. Myers writes:

"In our great cities, up-town has its church magnificence, and down-town has its church reminiscence. The population in the poor districts has been increased by the thousands, while the churches have decreased for the thousands in a greater ratio. A gulf is fixed by traitorism to divinest truth. We have splendid buildings and able ministers and uncounted money, but we fail to reach the men, because we have run away from the place where most of the men live, and run away from the supreme mission of the church to seek and save the lost, and to recognize one of the lost to be just as valuable as the other. We discuss and mourn, but fail to act and remedy."

A positive theology, thinks Dr. Myers, with its unvarnished application to the common affairs of life, should replace the theory of evolution, which leads to adverse criticism of the Bible. When men go to church, they go to hear spiritual interpretation, as applied to themselves, and they do not care for individual criticism, which in most cases ends in doubt and skepticism. "The demand is for the Bible, not changed, but adapted." "With all the faults of this age," says Dr. Myers, "it admires reality, and hates 'cant' and hypocrisy." We are all fellow men, in a world of many evils, and the way we are to be aided spiritually is by the human touch, by what is commonly called personality, or personal magnetism. One of the great faults of the church is "the lack of real living brotherhood in church life"; outside, in this busy world, we see union in all branches; the church should stand for unity, because a disagreement "means empty pews." Dr. Meyers continues:

"The cold world wants warm words, warm smiles, warm welcomes, warm hearts, warm prayers, and the warm atmosphere of the brotherhood of man in the place where they teach the fatherhood of God. There is another evil related to this one, or rather an expansion of it, in the lack of the brotherly relation, and of cooperation between the various churches. The world is not schooled in doctrinal distinctions, and can not easily recognize the necessity for church separation, and sometimes church opposition. No period in the world's history has witnessed more significant changes than this age in which we live. The tendency of the time in the political and business world alike is unquestionably toward consolidation and centralization and cooperation. The man who fails to recognize this fails in his undertaking. The church which fails to adapt itself to this characteristic of the age must also fail to reach the men of this age. Cooperation must be one of the watchwords of the church in the dawning hour of the twentieth century. Organizations have been multiplied, and even different denominations separated into more divisions, and religious efforts have been scattered and weakened, and fields have been neglected while others have been crowded, and no great and united effort has been made toward cooperation in spending money and utilizing effort to reach men. Denominations with vital principles should live, and can live, even if we destroy sectarianism and bigotry."

It is this division which has driven men away from church, says the writer. "All denominations should get together, as business concerns, and, in the spirit of the age, map out the work and utilize the force," and in so doing, "denominations need not mean less, but Christianity should mean more."

In his other chapters Dr. Myers discusses ethical and social defects in man, and in society. The first duty of the church, he writes, is toward man spiritually, and the church will become a benefit to human society only so far as it benefits the individual. But man's misunderstanding of society and of himself, where, firstly, the church can not enforce, and where, secondly, the individual is blind to his proper position in the world, leads to unjust criticism and narrow views. Many outward influences are to blame for the absence of church-goers. Home life also has suffered material changes. "The tendency in this age is toward the destruction of some of the essential features of home and home life. Our great centers of population are practically homeless. Families have an existence within a few square feet of space enclosed between brick and mortar, but they do not live in homes."

Among other faults of society, the author in his final chapter criticizes modern invention, as encroaching on the Sabbath day. He berates the Sunday newspaper, which he calls "the modern criminal," for "it vitiates literary tastes, deadens religious feeling, destroys desire for worship, and drives worshipers from the house of God."

Social clubs, the encroachment of the bicycle, the evils of the saloon, and the predominance of materialism over spiritual things also come in for their share of Dr. Myers's condemnation.

THE RELIGIOUS PRESS ON MR. SHELDON'S EXPERIMENT.

MR. SHELDON'S brethren of the religious press are in the main inclined to judge his recent attempt in Christian daily journalism with more patience and to accord it a little more commendation than did most of his brethren of the secular press. *The Independent* (undenom.) criticizes the week's issue of the Topeka *Capital* under Mr. Sheldon's editorship as being, first, "too *preachy*"; and, second, as lacking a proper and legitimate news instinct; but it defends Mr. Sheldon from the charges of charlatanism and blasphemy that have been so freely imputed to him. It says (March 22):

"There has been no little contemptuous talking and writing about the scheme of the publisher and principal proprietor of the Topeka *Capital*, to have the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon edit the paper, advertisements and all, for a week as nearly as he can as he thinks Jesus would edit it if He were on earth. We see no reason for such contempt. The aim is a right one. The principle of Mr. Sheldon's famous book, 'In His Steps,' is correct. A publisher or an editor ought to try to do his work, as every one else should, after the pattern and the great rule of universal love laid down by Jesus Christ. To call this a mere scheme for a big advertisement, or a foolish and pretentious mixing of the other world with this, appears to us ungenerous and unjust.

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The aim, the ideal, is a right one, the only right one; and the single week of the Sheldon edition of the Topeka *Capital* is no solitary attempt of a newspaper to live up to this ideal."

The Watchman (Bapt., March 22) agrees with those who think the plan a sacrilegious one. It also thinks the outcome a failure:

"Coming to the consideration of the question, What kind of a newspaper has Mr. Sheldon succeeded in making? we should say, in a general way, that it is greatly inferior to our best religious weekly papers. His work is not marked by the breadth of information, the insight or balance that characterize journals of this class, while it very decidedly reveals a disposition to advocate fads of various sorts.

"Compared with the better daily journals Mr. Sheldon's experiment also appears to a disadvantage. His idea of suppressing news, because he does not think that it is well for people to be informed about it, is not a defensible one. The New York *Times* takes as its editorial motto, 'All the news that's fit to print.' That is a far saner standard than to resolve to print only that which you approve of having your readers know. A daily paper may be rightfully expected to give the news. If that is not so, then we ought not to have these papers at all. But all the news that's fit to print may be given by two journals with totally different results, dependent upon the editor's sense of proportion and method of treatment."

Zion's Herald (Meth. Episc., March 21) says:

"The experiment has been a decided disappointment, and to no one perhaps more than to Mr. Sheldon himself. . . . On the whole we regret the venture. It has belittled and profaned the name of Jesus, the one adorable Name. The conception as well as the experiment was a mistake, tho made in all sincerity and good purpose by Mr. Sheldon. We regret to see that he has been misapprehended and misrepresented. He is one of the most modest and conscientious of men. . . . He thought he could materialize his ideal of a Christian daily, but he has failed. That he was wholly sincere in his purpose does not change the result. We leave our readers to point the moral."

The Presbyterian (March 21) thinks that Mr. Sheldon "has failed to satisfy the public that Christ has especially appointed him for this kind of work." It adds:

"We wish Dr. Sheldon had let this newspaper scheme alone. We fear more harm than benefit will result from it. At best, it is only a possibility. It will require a series of years to test the practicability and value of the experiment. In some quarters it encounters contempt. The world is making it an occasion for mockery and jest. The Christian public generally takes very little stock in it."

The Congregationalist (March 22), altho an organ of the religious body with which Mr. Sheldon is affiliated, thinks his attempt a failure, and attributes this to what it regards as his initial error in the treatment of news. Even some of his religious news, it says, was "lamentably stale":

"For instance, a portion of the column entitled 'Religious Notes' contained statements that had been in type weeks ago, both in the religious and secular press. Mr. Sheldon missed a great opportunity when he did not develop this side of his paper, bringing to light exact and fresh information touching important religious interests. . . . . .

"The fundamental mistake was his attempt to do a work for which he had no training. One can not manage a modern hotel or run an express train with no other equipment than Christian impulses and ideals. To be sure, Mr. Sheldon possesses literary ability, but until a few weeks ago he had little acquaintance with the practical workings of a newspaper office. He thought that by giving half a day for several weeks he could become master of one of the most arduous and exacting of modern professions. The result of his experiment has revealed not only his inadequacy to the making of a modern newspaper, but his own personal limitations of thought and vision."

The Christian Standard (Disciples, March 24) says:

"In joining in with the popular criticism over the alleged defects of Mr. Sheldon's enterprise, the friends of a Christian secular journalism are apt to lose sight of the most significant lesson of the whole experiment. . . . That 300,000 or 350,000 subscribers could be secured, from all over the country, for a daily paper published in a Western town of 50,000 inhabitants, is one of the pregnant facts of current history. Making due allowance for the influence of curiosity and the impulsive zeal of certain Christian workers, this remarkable response to the proposal to publish a daily secular paper on distinctly Christian lines shows that a large number of the best people are ready to support a higher order of journalism than is now represented by our metropolitan daily papers."

The Churchman (Prot. Episc., March 24) thinks that a primary defect in Mr. Sheldon's editorship was his lack of discrimination in the emphasis he gave to news which he used and his mistaken judgment regarding news which he debarred, particularly that relating to the stage:

"The stage may be pretty bad in Topeka, and indeed it is by no means ideal anywhere, but the instinct which takes people to the theater is both ancient and widespread, and has good grounds in human nature, and there are plays which it is profitable to see. The Christian teacher who will really profit the community is one who, after all due investigation, shall inform the public, as the editor of *Life* did a week or two ago, just what current plays are good to see, and what are bad. The heaping together of a great number of things, some of which are good, under a general ban offends that common sense which ought to have a recognized and honorable place in all moral teaching. One of the characteristics of our Lord was that He knew men. Anybody who would carry on a newspaper, or any other business in His name, must have a large fund of the same knowledge."

Ave Maria (Rom. Cath., March 24) says:

"We are not disposed to find fault with the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, the Protestant minister who has been conducting a newspaper out in Kansas as he imagines our Lord would have this work done. There are plenty of people, notably preachers, to throw stones at Brother Sheldon. We will not join them. If he were not doing good, we doubt whether the devil would stir up so much opposition against him. His methods may smack somewhat of sensationalism, but there are strong reasons for thinking that at heart he is honest and sincere. The energy and earnestness of the man are admirable. He is another John Wesley in this respect, and we wonder that devout Methodists have not noted the resemblance."

IS THE JESUIT ORDER MOHAMMEDAN IN ORIGIN?

THE startling hypothesis of Victor Charbonnel, recently outlined in a French review, that the celebrated Society of Jesus founded by Ignatius Loyola was instituted by him upon a Mohammedan model, has attracted attention from a German scholar, Dr. Arthur Pfungst, who in an article in *The Open Court* (March), translated from a late number of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, states the grounds upon which this theory rests. The argument is mainly drawn from the similarity between Mohammedan religious societies and the official rule of the Jesuit order. Dr. Pfungst says:

"At the time of Loyola, we know of two Mohammedan religious societies in Spain—the Kadryas and the Kadelyas, the latter so called because they were founded by Sid Abdel Kader. The members of this congregation are called *sufis*, or *kuans*, *i.e.*, brethren; they are subject to the *uerd*, *i.e.*, rule. They have a *dikr*, *i.e.*, common prayer, which must be repeated several thousand times a day, and serves them as a means of mutual recognition. They are absolutely subject to a *sheik*, who governs the whole congregation. They live in *zanias*, *i.e.*, monasteries, governed by *mokaddems*, or abbots.

"The reception of a novice among the Kadryas consists in an apprenticeship of at least a year and a day, in which the novice learns by heart all the rules of the order, and practises the virtues which are expected of him. Thirty to forty days of perfect isolation are required, during which time the novice is not allowed to speak except with his superior. He must demand in writing what he needs, and is not allowed to take more nourish-

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ment than is absolutely necessary for the sustenance of life. The time of sleep is also limited, and is strictly submitted to rule. The novice's employment consists of prayers, meditations, and the reading of sacred books. Unless he be reading, the novice must 'close his eyes to illumine his heart.' In the same way the Jesuits expect a retirement of thirty to forty days, in which the first week is devoted to a purification of the soul. Light is permitted only for reading and eating. The novice is forbidden to laugh, and must speak to his superior only, who regulates his fasts and vigils. His meditations are limited to such subjects as death, hell, etc. The result of these spiritual exercises is the same both with the Kadryas and the Jesuits, a mental condition which prepares the mind for hallucinations.

"The similarity between the rules of the two orders can be traced in detail. The regulations of the Kadryas prescribe: 'If a novice is of a common nature, it is advisable to let him proceed by degrees, and only easy prayers should be imposed upon him' The Jesuit rule reads: 'If the leader of exercises notices that his disciple shows only inferior natural faculties, it is advisable to impress upon him only lighter exercises.'

"The same regulations exist among both the Mohammedans and the Jesuits for the repetition of some definite prayers. Even the attitude in prayer is prescribed. The Mussulman Kuan must 'raise his eyes in praying, and gaze at one single definite point without swerving'—a method which was known to the Arabians as the best way of self-hypnotization. The same is literally prescribed for the Jesuit exercises. The Kuans pray in cadences, utilizing inspiration and expiration, and pronouncing some sacred word while breathing, then devoting the time of exhaling to meditation thereon. Between the various acts of breathing, no more than one single word must be uttered. In the same way the Jesuits know in their prayers one method which is called 'the third way of praying'; and is praying according to the rhythm of breathing as prescribed in the regulations of the Kadryas. And it is stated in the latter that a truly faithful Kuan 'will see, and hear, and feel, and smell, and taste' the object of his meditations. These words remind the reader of one of the Jesuit exercises in which it is said that 'Hell shall be meditated upon from the point of view of the five senses: first, I see with the eyes of imagination the enormous flames and the souls of the condemned entirely surrounded with fire; secondly, I hear with the aid of imagination the shouts and cries and blasphemies of the condemned against Jesus Christ and His saints; thirdly, I imagine that I breathe the fumes of sulfur and the odor of the pit or of fetid matter; fourthly, I imagine I see bitterness, tears, sadness, the gnawing worm of conscience; and fifthly, I touch the flames of vengeance and imagine vividly how the souls of the condemned burn.'"

The inner organization of the two orders exhibits a like similarity, says Dr. Pfungst. The authority of the superiors is absolute among the Mohammedan orders as among the Jesuits; the novitiate, the mode of electing a general, the regulations as to property, the renunciation of judgment on the part of the member to the superior, so that the former is "forthwith as a corpse (*perinde ac cadaver*)" in the hands of the superior, are the same alike in the Christian and Muslim brotherhoods. Indeed, this very simile conveying the primary Jesuit regulation of obedience is used in the Sheik Si Soosi's book of rules: "Thou shalt be in the hands of thy sheik as a corpse in the hands of an undertaker." Even the famous Jesuit motto, "*Ad majorem Dei gloriam*" (to the greater glory of God), is of Mohammedan origin according to Abbé Charbonnel, and he adds that the spirit and aims of the Kuans and the Jesuits are the same. The abbé's denunciation, as given by Herr Pfungst, is a sweeping one, and will no doubt meet with denial by members of the Society of Jesus. Herr Pfungst says:

"The spirit of these organizations [the Kuans and the Jesuits] is an absolute theocracy, the aim a spiritual government over all worldly affairs. A specialty of the Kuans is their method of assassination and the disposing of adversaries through the murderer's dagger. Charbonnel abstains from drawing further parallels, saying: 'We do not mean to make odious comparisons, but we should in this place consider that the Jesuits have frequently justified political assassination.' And he adds that this is one of the points which led to the expulsion of the Jesuits in almost all the states of Europe, and caused Pope Clement XVIII. to abolish the order.

"The salient results according to Charbonnel are the same in both societies—the Mohammedan Kuans and the Christian Jesuits. He says: 'Wherever among the nations Kuanism or Jesuitism penetrated races, political parties, and religions, wherever their spirit was impressed upon them, we find the same corruption, the same fettering of all energy, the same shadows of death. The whole Orient is dead, Uruguay and Paraguay are dead, the republics of South America are dead; Cuba and the Philippines are taken away, otherwise they would be dead too; Spain is dead. All these countries were the possessions of the Sufis or the Kuans, of the clergy and the monks. The dreary work of the sheiks and of the monastic generals has been complemented everywhere through the assistance of real soldiers!'"

MAY ROMAN CATHOLICS ACCEPT THE THEORY OF NATURAL SELECTION?

THE impression has prevailed that the excommunication of Dr. Mivart was largely due to his acceptance of scientific teachings condemned by the Roman Catholic Church. A well-known Roman Catholic, Dr. William Seton, writing in *The Catholic World* (February), makes a plea for the acceptance of some scientific teachings which would imply that Dr. Mivart's controversy with Cardinal Vaughan (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, February 3, 17, March 3) was mainly on matters of theological dogma and Scriptural interpretation, and not science. Dr. Seton does not care to discuss the large question of "organic evolution as opposed to the old-time theory of separate, special creation of numberless organisms"; for, in the words of the Roman Catholic bishop of Newport, "it should be well borne in mind that the foremost Catholic men of science of the day not only hold a theory of evolution, but consider that there can be no doubt on the matter." Dr. Seton's object, is, however, to defend the doctrine of natural selection, and to "show that this factor is, when properly understood, not only not opposed to the idea of God's creative act, but that, on the contrary, His wisdom is manifest in it." Dr. Seton writes:

"As we know, Charles Darwin was guided to the discovery of his celebrated hypothesis . . . by the study of what Man has accomplished through artificial selection. He cites the common opinion of naturalists that the various breeds of the domestic pigeon—the carrier, pouter, tumbler, fantail, and others—are all descended from the wild rock-pigeon through slight differences accumulated by pigeon-fanciers during many successive generations.

"Man has done this for his own pleasure, until finally he has changed the original rock-pigeon not only outwardly, but he has brought about modifications in the skulls of the different breeds. The same thing man has done with the dog, horse, sheep, and other animals. The different breeds have been produced by man's selecting and accumulating in one direction the variations which suited his purpose, which variations are so slight that an uneducated eye can not appreciate them. The same principle of continual selection of slight variations has been followed in regard to plants. The gardener cultivates the best variety; then when a still somewhat better variety springs from its seeds, he selects it, and thus little by little the vegetable and the flower are modified and improved. . . . . .

"As every naturalist knows, animals and plants present individual differences under changing conditions of life. And here we declare our belief that when the Almighty created the first plants and animals, *He did implant in them the power to respond to extrinsic factors acting on them.* These extrinsic factors arouse, call forth, so to speak, dormant variations which are thrown out promiscuously in all directions, and there being far more births than there is room or food for, severe competition ensues, and certain ones among these variations are (of course metaphorically speaking) selected by nature as the fittest to survive in a changing environment; and the environment is, as a

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rule, always more or less changing. This is what we mean by natural selection.

"Only for this God-given tendency in animals and plants to respond in a favorable way to outward changes—and only for such response there could be no selection—the Creator must have been continually working fresh miracles through new creations in order to adapt organic life to new conditions; for vast indeed have been the changes in sea and land and climates, in food and in enemies, since organic life first appeared. And we know by fossil remains, by the testimony of the rocks, that vast also have been the changes in animals and plants."

After tracing the course of evolution in the first geologic ages, and of natural selection in the Eocene epoch of the Tertiary age as evidenced in several species of mammalia, Dr. Seton says:

"We can not too often repeat that variations are the groundwork for natural selection to act on; and we say again that we believe Almighty God willed in the beginning that slight differences should appear in the offspring of the same parents in response to outward changes. And there must have been great changes in the conditions of animal life during the two million years which we may allow for the Tertiary period. As thus explained there is surely nothing in the hypothesis of natural selection that a Catholic may not accept, and, as Bishop Hedley tells us in the Dublin *Review* for October, 1898, theologians are already beginning to look upon Darwinism with a more favorable eye."

SCIENCE AND PROVIDENCE.

JUST as in the early ages of the Church Christianity found itself face to face with Hellenism, and found its energies and life crippled at every turn until through battle and partial compromise the issue was decided, so now, it is believed by many students of religion, Christianity must face Science and come to terms with it. So thinks Dr. D. S. Cairns, who writes in *The Contemporary Review* (March). "The position of Science," he remarks, "is incomparably stronger than the medley of philosophies and beliefs that early Christianity had to encounter. No educated man doubts the solidity and permanence of her contribution to human thought." In the light of the scientific conceptions of the present day, "Christianity seems an exotic," or, as Professor Hermann more bluntly put it, "in our modern world Christianity is an alien." Until this difference has been transcended, says Dr. Cairns, the aggressive force of Christianity will be crippled and hampered at every turn. One of the central problems in this contemplated concordat of Christianity and Science is the reconciliation of the Christian conception of the world, as a realm of Divine Providence, with the scientific conception of it as a Reign of Law:

"We must recognize that at first sight the demonstration of the Reign of Law in nature seems to conflict with that view of the world which we derive from the Revelation which culminates in Christ. If we take a man who has been living purely in the world of scientific ideas and transport him into the world of thought of revealed religion, we can not wonder if he shows signs of surprise and of revolt. He has changed his 'psychological climate.' He has been living in a world of uniformities, of measured spaces and forces and times, a world of which the central principle seemed to be its own consistent action; and the world into which Revelation would bring him seems to be ruled by radically different principles. For, from start to finish, there can really be no doubt as to the teaching of Revelation. In the clearest and most memorable fashion it proclaims that God's providence controls in their own interest whatsoever happens to His children. If you try to take this faith out of the Old Testament, Hebrew religion becomes a mere ruin. Take the Psalmists: what can shake their conviction that the whole power of God is at the disposal of the solitary faithful Spirit, for protection, discipline, and salvation; what can match their magnificent confidence in God as the Shepherd, the Fortress, and the Refuge of the soul? All the histories in like manner are based on this theory of human life, and the gigantic spiritual achievement of Prophecy is undertaken and carried through in the strength of this faith. And when we come to the climax of Revelation we find this principle expressed with a clearness which can not be increased. 'Be not anxious for the morrow,' said Jesus, 'for your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.' Nor does any one of the Apostles ever dream of moving from this ancient standpoint.

"Some years ago the present writer remembers reading a letter relating to the death of a friend who had perished in the wreck of an ocean liner which had gone ashore on the Spanish coast. The writer of the letter, in referring to this friend, rightly, from the Christian point of view, laid stress on the fact that her death was the Will of God, and was therefore best for her. A scientific writer, looking at the same event, might have viewed it as part of an immense context of phenomena. He would have taken the proximate causes—the strong shoreward current in the Bay of Biscay, the mists that at that season envelop sea and land, the deflection of the compass, perhaps, caused by the geological composition of the Finisterre Rocks, and so on. He would have shown that these again had their antecedents, climatic, geological, chemical, and so on, and these again their antecedents, reaching back through the ages. He would have shown further that these proximate causes must also have their consequents, and these again their consequents, and so forward throughout the future. He would have shown us, in short, a great system of things reaching onward from the primordial Fire-Mist to the ultimate Crack of Doom, and maintained that to alter any one part would be to alter the whole, and then would have turned on us triumphantly and asked us if we actually believed that all this vast process was set in motion to drown a particular person on a particular day for her own good. The difficulty certainly seems a serious one, and so long as we stand by the barely Positivist view of Science and the barely Individualistic view of Religion, it would seem to be insoluble so far as the intellect is concerned.

"But in stating these limitations we have already indicated the lines of a solution. It has become impossible for Science to remain at the purely positive standpoint; and Evangelical religion has in like manner outgrown the excessive Individualism which for a long time characterized it.

"Take first the drift in Science. The whole conception of Evolution is teleological. There is an interesting passage in Mr. Darwin's 'Life' in which this point is very clearly brought out by him in a letter to Prof. Asa Gray, thanking him for an article written in *Nature*, June 4, 1874. 'What you say about Teleology,' he writes, 'pleases me especially, and I do not think any one else has ever noticed the point. I have always said you were the man to hit the nail on the head.' The passage referred to in Professor Gray's paper is thus given: 'Let us recognize Darwin's great service to Natural Science in bringing back to it Teleology, so that, instead of Morphology versus Teleology, we shall have Morphology wedded to Teleology.' In the same strain Professor Huxley wrote: 'Perhaps the most remarkable service which Mr. Darwin has rendered to the philosophy of Biology is the reconciliation of Morphology and Teleology, and the explanation of the facts of both which his views offer. The teleology which supposes that the eye, such as we see it in man or in one of the higher vertebrata, was made in the precise structure it exhibits, for the purpose of enabling the animal which possesses it to see, has undoubtedly received its death-blow. Nevertheless, it is necessary to remember that there is a wider teleology, which is not touched by the doctrine of Evolution, but is actually based upon the fundamental proposition of Evolution' ('Darwiniana,' p. 110)."

The vital point, says Dr. Cairns, is that in dealing with the positive or physical standpoint and that of teleology or final causes, we are dealing with two worlds. The Hidden Purpose moves upward through the several strata of the inorganic and organic realms until the central interest of the divine comedy concentrates on the fortunes of human society, the last and highest result of time:

"If this be so, if there is a real climax to the long history of nature, then it surely must needs be that no part of the long chain of process which leads to this consummation can be without meaning. Logical coherence compels us to suppose that the whole natural order is an immense system of final causes con-

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verging at last upon one supreme Τέλος [Final Cause], the 'one far-off Divine Event to which the whole creation moves.' It is toward this end that law must be working, the ocean currents flowing, the mists rising and falling, the strata being piled mountains high, and human life being lavished by land and sea. All roads of Nature at last converge upon some mother city of Man.

"But is this version of the Scientific Conception of the Reign of Law in radical antagonism with the Christian view of the world? If the argument hitherto has been a sound one, it is, on the contrary, in profound harmony with it. If it is true that Science has advanced from the positive to the Teleological standpoint, it is true also that the advance of Biblical Theology has carried religious thought beyond the narrower Individualism in which it was bound, and has given it a vaster horizon and a larger hope. The Gospels also teach us that all God's individual providences converge upon a universal end, which is nothing else than the most perfect form of Society, a union of God and Humanity in the 'Kingdom of God.'"

THEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF "PARADISE LOST."

MILTON'S great epic is held responsible for a profound and long-lasting influence upon the religious and theological conceptions of a large part of the English-speaking world. Its theology is in the main in close accord with what is now called the "traditional view" of the Bible. Milton's purpose, of course, was to "reconcile the ways of God to men," and to do this he had to draw upon sources outside the creeds and even outside the Scriptures. A writer, Mr. H. Rawlins, Jr., in *The Westminster Review* (January) thinks that Milton's poem is, in fact, an indictment of his creed; that his noble and free spirit unconsciously revolted against his theological beliefs; and that "Paradise Lost," "with its massive splendor, crushes the dry bones of a system which it was meant to enshrine for men's reverence." The line of reasoning by which Mr. Rawlins reaches this conclusion is as follows:

"The most obvious and yet the most telling criticisms upon the Bible story of the Fall, when interpreted in the traditional way, are these—that the whole account is miserably meager for so stupendous an event; and that the *causes* of the catastrophe and the way in which it took place are altogether trivial and unintelligible. That the whole race of mankind should be ruined by a serpent enticing with a fruit, and that the whole incident should be explained in a single page of print, is so incongruous as to be ridiculous the moment it is thought about without implicit faith in Biblical authority. Now, in 'Paradise Lost' the theme is at least treated with fulness and dignity. The length of the poem is worthy of the issues. The crisis is elaborately led up to. There is a serious attempt to make the causes clear and show them to be sufficient. Bravely is the question of divine justice wrestled with. If Milton fails, as he does fail theologically, a hundred times greater is the failure of the literal theologian who sticks to Genesis.

"But even if the poet is held to have succeeded, all the new resources which he employs in aid of his attempt are themselves so many unconscious criticisms upon the Bible story.

"'Paradise Lost' has twelve books, but the fatal fruit is not tasted till the ninth book. A general glance at the contents of the preceding eight books will at once give an insight into Milton's methods, and a more detailed examination will show how splendidly he built upon his false foundation. . . . . .

"In the first place, the figure of Satan in 'Paradise Lost' bears some fit proportion to the events which in Genesis are attributed to a mere serpent. The whole episode of the war in heaven and the expulsion of the fiends, especially the picture we have of the personalities of the rebel leaders—all this is not only a marvelous poetic creation, it also gives much-needed balance to a theological system. It provides something like an adequate cause for the ruin of mankind. But to feel the majesty of it in Milton's poem is to feel also the lack of majesty in the Genesis story. There is nothing whatever in the Biblical story to suggest that the word serpent was meant in any but a plain and literal sense—it signifies just a paltry snake. The identification of this snake with a mighty spirit of evil, Satan or the Devil, came later; and it came just because the story, when taken seriously as the basis of a theology, would have been a sheer mockery without such identification. No *Biblical* writer read the new interpretation into the word serpent. This was the work of the systematizing theologians. It was they who identified 'the most subtle of all the beasts of the field' with the Devil who tempted Jesus and the Satan who (we are told in Revelations) fell from heaven. From time to time attempts were made to present his personality and history in some clearer and fuller form. But when Milton approached his subject he found ample ground not yet occupied. One can not resist the impression that he must have felt very keenly the curtness of the story of the Fall. The whole record must have seemed to him too incomplete and trivial for the stupendous issues involved. And, tho he could at times deny as stoutly as any one the right of the human mind to speculate in matters of religion beyond the bounds of the Biblical revelation, yet in this matter we see him impelled with irresistible force beyond those bounds. In any case, he deliberately aims at giving a full vision of events (as he imagined them) which preceded and led up to the temptation in Eden; and this is the boldest, the most original, and the largest part of his poem."

Nowhere, says Mr. Rawlins, does Milton's art "come so nobly into conflict with his theology as in his portrayal of Satan's affection and pity for the innocent creatures whom he is about to ensnare." A merely brutal enemy of mankind would have repelled every reader—Milton creates a being for whom we can feel a genuine interest, even admiration. "Milton has ruined the Genesis fable—for theology," says Mr. Rawlins; but from the point of view which no longer accepts for its guidance the ethical code of primitive barbarians, this is no calamity:

"This great work of art is at present much neglected, especially by those who have given up the old theology. Probably the chief reason (next to the flood of present-day literature and newspapers) is this—that the reader of the poem feels that he is expected to believe its main story as a truth of religion, and the instructed mind now resents that expectation. But the time is coming (for a large number of people the time has already come) when such expectation and such resentment will both have become impossible, and when it will be as natural and easy to discuss the plot of 'Paradise Lost' as that of 'King Lear' or 'Macbeth.' To reach this position is to cease to be disturbed by any question as to the historical validity or non-validity of the original fable, and to be free to enjoy the way in which it is treated. From this point of view 'Paradise Lost' is seen to be the revelation of a master mind struggling heroically with a theme not altogether tractable even in his hands, but ennobling it with the splendid riches of his imagination, and throwing broadcast pearls of wise and beautiful speech which are admirable and helpful for all time."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE Liberal Congress of Religions, which aims to perpetuate the spirit of the World's Parliament of Religions held at Chicago during the World's Fair, is to be in session in Boston from April 24 to April 29. Its prime object, in the words of its secretary, is "not to create a new fellowship, but to emphasize, expand and incorporate a fellowship that already exists."

THE plan for establishing an American school of Oriental studies in Palestine is being actively pushed by a number of American colleges. Such an institution, it is thought, is much needed by the modern student of Biblical archeology, and is justified by the results obtained from the schools of classical studies at Athens and Rome. Prominent among the supporters is Dr. Richard J. H. Gottheil, of Columbia University.

BY a slip of the pen, a recent statement in THE LITERARY DIGEST was made to assert that the Baptists are the most numerous of the Protestant denominations. According to the statistics which we have already printed for the past year the Catholics (three bodies) come first among Christian denominations with 8,446,301 members; the Methodists (seventeen bodies) come second, with 5,809,516 members; and the Baptists (thirteen bodies) come third, with 4,443,628 members. These figures, however, are not absolutely trustworthy, for church records are often imperfectly kept and often not reported. There is, too, a radical difference of method in reckoning membership in some of the Christian bodies. The Roman Catholics, for instance, report as members every baptized person, whether adult or infant, while most of the Protestant bodies report only those who have, as adults or adolescents, formally announced their Christian allegiance.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

CONDITION OF THE BRITISH NAVY.

ONE result of the South African war is a more rigid inspection, by the British, of the condition of their navy, and more especially of its artillery. Facts are being published which will be new even to naval men. *The Saturday Review* (London) says:

"At a time when the importance of an all-powerful navy is manifest, the parliamentary returns of the fleets of Great Britain and foreign countries is not a reassuring document. Of the fifty-three completed battle-ships with which we are credited no less than sixteen are still armed with inefficient artillery in the shape of muzzle-loading guns. These would be completely outclassed and outranged—to use an expression now being applied elsewhere—if pitted against modern ordnance. In the French navy there does not appear to be a single muzzle-loading gun. If an ironclad is worth retaining on the effective list, and having her machinery renewed, her artillery should be improved as far as possible. . . . When we find historic craft like the *Warrior* and the training squadron included, we may well doubt the value of a return containing such anomalies, and equally demand that our sea scouts should be up to date."

M. Lockroy, ex-minister of marine in France, recently published a book in which he set forth that the French navy is inferior to the British, except in its artillery. The excellence of the French guns has lately been shown, and as our own war with Spain revealed the importance of the artillery service, many English papers, even the most jingoistic, express uneasiness. *The St. James's Gazette* says:

"Let us consider what it is that is claimed by Frenchmen for the armament of their navy. It is not that their gun has a greater velocity only, or is merely a better piece in itself, and apart from its ammunition and fittings. What they maintain is that the whole of their armament, guns, mountings, and ammunition taken together, are better, more simple, more military than ours, and in finer order than those of any other nation, and especially than ours. There is a look of ostentation about all this, which if we heard it from an Englishman concerning any belongings of our own would make us at once suspect the speaker for a windbag. But it is the case with the French that they may be thorough workmen, and able men, but also braggarts to an extent which no Englishman ever reaches save when he is also a quack and a fool. Therefore we will not jump to the conclusion that all French authorities tell us of the admirable qualities of their naval armament is mere exaggeration. Our critics at the admiralty, whose duty it is to make themselves acquainted with the facts, do not seem to be by any means confident. Here also we may allow for the English habit of self-depreciation, and may suppose that the technical authorities in the admiralty are expressly making the least of their own case. Still, when every allowance is made, we are left with an uneasy conviction that our war-ships are on the whole less well armed than the French. . . . Supposing now they can show that their navy is better armed than ours, will they not have a still stronger case for recommending a war at once?"

The Times, too, thinks General de la Roque must know what he talks about when he describes the French artillery as in every respect superior to the English. But the French are not the only ones to claim that their artillery is superior to that of the British navy. We take the following from an account published in the *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin):

"It is not at all impossible that Great Britain would experience as much disappointment in a naval war as now in her struggle on land. A portion of the English press have acknowledged that all is not as it should be; but the general public hardly know the extent of the corruption rampant in the navy. Many of the guns are made of bad material, are faultily constructed, and have wrong caliber. Guns must be manufactured with the utmost precision, else they are likely to burst and can not be depended upon for accurate shooting. Krupp, for instance, owes his reputation to the fact that nothing is allowed to leave his works ere it is thoroughly tested and able to pass the most rigorous inspection. Now in England it is very common for cabinet ministers to be interested in large industrial establishments, and to draw large sums as shareholders or directors. It is, therefore, easy to understand that government contracts are not always given to the most reliable firms. Thus the guns obtained from the Italian branch of the Armstrong Company are said to be very faulty. (Naturally a part of the Italian artillery also leaves much to be desired.) Faulty caliber is a serious matter. For if the ammunition of a gun should run short, it may be found that ammunition supplied for another gun nominally of the same caliber is useless, and a gun is put out of action. To this must be added that many ships are armed with old, inferior guns, and therefore hardly able to cope with an enemy carrying the best modern artillery.

"The quality of the crews leaves much to be desired. Their discipline is not good, and that counts almost for more nowadays than personal courage. Their training also is faulty. There can be no doubt that the British navy has ships which might well be the envy of any nation; but, on the average, that navy is certainly not what it is 'cracked up to be,' and it may with certainty be assumed that the German—excepting, of course, in point of numbers—is much more serviceable."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POLITICS AND TRADE IN SOUTH AMERICA.

FRENCH papers, notably the *Journal des Débats*, have mentioned the visit of the Argentine training-ship *Presidente Sarmiento* in Spanish ports as a demonstration against the United States. It can hardly be regarded as such if we believe the *España Moderna* (Madrid), which keeps itself well informed on South American affairs. We take the following from its latest summary:

The visit of the Spanish cruiser *Rio de la Plata* was the cause of much rejoicing in Argentina and Uruguay. All the more disappointing was it that the vessel should have been ordered to leave so suddenly. What made the Spanish minister of marine send that order? Only one explanation seems possible—the visit of Admiral Schley and his squadron. These United States vessels were given a grand reception at Buenos Ayres, showing beyond a doubt that the Argentine Republic is on the most cordial terms with the United States. We do not blame the Americans for making the most of this; but the presence of their ships was no reason for the Spaniard to leave. Or does some secret article of the Treaty of Paris prohibit the Spanish flag in South America? To many people it would seem that President Roca goes a little too far in his subservience to McKinley.

The writer thinks that, on the whole, Spanish America is very quiet just now. Mexico is sure to rest content with President Porfirio Diaz for another term, and all through South America there is a tendency to take the power out of the hands of the political generals, and appoint civilians. The *Kölnische Zeitung* (Cologne) also points out that the Southern continent is tolerably peaceful. Brazil and Bolivia have settled their boundary quarrels, and the new republic of Acre has been forced out of existence in consequence. The Porto Alegre *Tageblatt* declares that, at least so far as Brazil is concerned, the revolutionary tendency does not hurt business much. It declares that this is well known in England, Belgium, and the United States. We summarize as follows:

The most barefaced, stupid business tricks still seem to be effective. One of the oldest is to call a thing nasty if you want to get it away from somebody else. Even the children know of this joke. Jack says to Jill: "Huh! I would not eat that bit of cake. An ugly bug has been sitting on it." And poor Jill not only throws away the cake, but is even grateful to Jack, who, nevertheless, gets very much the best of the bargain. The cake is Brazil, and Jack is England. But lately Belgium and the United States have seen through the trick, and they join in the

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merry game of frightening off poor Jill—Germany. Thus it happens that the German waits too long ere he invests his money here, and all the plums are picked up by others.

For seventy years the rate of exchange has steadily declined in Brazil. But neither is a dollar worth as much to-day in Germany as it was seventy years ago. Yet Germany has progressed wonderfully, and Brazil also has progressed. Brazil is as large as the European continent. Almost yearly there has been some sort of a revolt somewhere within her wide boundaries; but she has not fallen to pieces, and will not fall to pieces any more than Europe fails to be progressive tho she has wars. We Brazilians are a little hot-headed. We are familiar with weapons, and sometimes we break heads. But that is our private business. The security of capital in Brazil has nothing to do with it. Our trade and our industries are far removed from politics. Our *pronunciamentos* are facts; but the English use them to send out their lying telegrams, by which they seek to destroy our credit in order to have us all to themselves. Hence we are only too glad to see people from other countries coming to do business with us.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TALK OF AN ANGLO-FRENCH WAR.

IN France, Germany, Spain, Holland, and Portugal, the press discuss the possibility of an attack on their country by Great Britain. This talk is founded on the apprehension that England will attempt to restore what is called her "lost prestige" by a sudden descent upon some nation whose navy is much weaker than her own. Especially in France is this supposed danger a continual topic. *The Spectator* (London) remarks:

"We can not doubt from the information before us that Frenchmen as a body believe, or at least think they believe, that the British intend to attack them, that as soon as the army returns from South Africa a cause of war will be discovered, and that the British fleet will be used to lay their coast towns in ashes and 'snap up' their colonies. They are actually spending millions on home defenses under this illusion, and sending artillerymen in defiance of admitted law to man their arsenal in Madagascar lest we should pounce down upon it. To listen to some of their writers is to suffer as from nightmare, and even their Government, tho it retains its reason and expects no attack, uses the impression of the majority to obtain large votes for coast defense."

The Spectator says these French fears are groundless, and *The Times* assures France that Englishmen would much rather fight Germany. The *République Française*, nevertheless, says:

"We do not believe in the war. But the best means to make it impossible is to be prepared for it ourselves. We hope, therefore, that the Government and Parliament will put aside their petty quarrels for once, and apply themselves to the task which circumstances impose, namely, that of rendering invulnerable our coasts and our colonies, organizing a colonial army, and reinforcing our distant garrisons."

Nearly all the French papers complain that their own remarks anent the Boer war receive close attention in England while the no less stinging comments of the German press are generally ignored. The *Temps* (Paris), in a very moderate article, remarks that it is impossible for Frenchmen to revise their opinion in such a way as to please the English. It says:

"If the English would revise their own attitude; if, instead of their lust of conquest, they would adopt once more those principles of justice and humanity by which they can so easily be influenced, they would soon recover the sympathies of their generous neighbors. When will England cease to play the part of enemy to the whole human race, as she so foolishly does now?"

The *Matin* supposes that Mr. Chamberlain's question to the colonies, regarding the number of men that could yet be furnished by them, is pointed against France. The *Nation* (Berlin) expresses astonishment at the fact that Englishmen expect to meet with anything but distrust, and says:

"The former England, which assisted Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, and Belgium to obtain their independence, that England had the sympathies of enlightened Europe. Modern England, which makes it her business to crush two small Dutch republics, must expect to be disliked. The sympathies of the civilized world to some extent prevented England's enemies from acting against her. To-day the United Kingdom has entered upon a career which must lead to increased armaments. But if she adopts a policy of guns and big battalions, she may find that other empires have bigger trumps."

The *Handelsblad* (Amsterdam) says:

"Undeniably the overwhelming majority of the French people are opposed to wars. But if a war must come, they prefer to fight England. When the British troops left for South Africa it was the cry 'Remember Majuba!' that accompanied them. If ever French troops battle with English, we will hear the cry '*Souvenez-vous de Fashoda.*' For that humiliation is not forgotten or forgiven, and the increased energy with which the anti-English agitation is carried on since Lord Roberts's successes bodes no good."

Some Frenchmen certainly speak of an energetic initiative in case of war with England. General de la Roque, in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, sets forth that Great Britain is not as invulnerable as some suppose her to be. At any rate, France is to-day less inclined to fear her neighbor across the Channel than at the time of the Fashoda affair, and England knows it. The "invasion cry" is raised once more in England. *The St. James's Gazette* is, perhaps, the most active in this. It even claims to have exclusive information, as it intimates in the following:

"It may be asked, How is it that *The St. James's Gazette* has come into the possession of so large and important a portion of the plan of the coming campaign? We can not divulge our sources of information. But, as the revelations of the Dreyfus trial have shown, military information, and that of the most secret nature, can be obtained in Paris for a consideration."

We give below a summary of what *The St. James's Gazette* claims to have discovered:

France, in 1875, submitted to Bismarck's threat of war, because he had the power to crush her. Again, France obeyed Lord Salisbury's mandate in 1898 because she did not then know that England would need nearly a quarter of a million men to prevent one fifth of that number of Dutch and Huguenot squatters from taking the Cape Colony. France may forgive Germany, the powerful, but she can not forgive England's "bluff" game. A war is inevitable before the commencement of the winter storms.

Four army corps and two independent cavalry divisions will be under arms in France for the next maneuvers, in August. If the order to mobilize is given at nine o'clock at night, 50,000 French troops can be passing on board ship by daylight the next morning, not counting the marines. England has at present hardly anything to oppose them. The British fleet will be induced to appear off the coast of Morocco by an attack upon that country. The one prominent fact, however, is that when the great exhibition closes, 200,000 men will be massed within a few hours' journey by train to the French ports nearest to England. A special service squadron should immediately be organized to ward off the blow.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Cronje's Tactics at Magersfontein.—The following Boer description of the manner in which General Cronje prepared for the British attack at Magersfontein is taken from an account given in the *Handelsblad* (Amsterdam):

"The scene of the action is tolerably level ground, with here and there a small kopje. In the center of the Boer position, thorn bushes were planted by General Cronje's orders, for the purpose of masking his batteries. His guns, however, were not permitted to fire until the end of the second day. They were in reserve. In front of the trees were placed ten Boers with Martini-Henry rifles. They were ordered to fire volleys at certain intervals, the smoke of the old-fashioned powder being intended to convey the impression that the Boer cannon were placed there.

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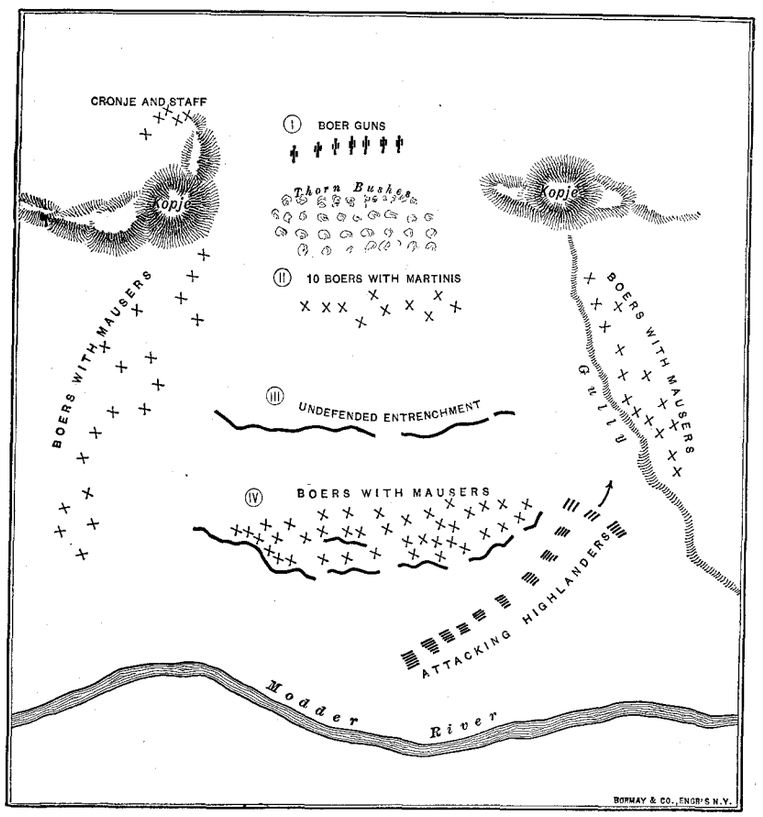
Next toward the enemy came a large, conspicuous entrenchment. It was without defenders; but served to protect the Boers armed with Martini-Henrys, as it received the enemy's cannonade. Next followed an entrenchment full of Boers armed with Mausers. Both flanks were protected by Boer commandos with Mausers.



SKETCH MAP OF BATTLE OF MAGERSFONTEIN.

The English hoped to outflank the Boers, but did not succeed. When General Wauchope reached the neighborhood of the Boers' first line [marked IV in the sketch], he was heard to exclaim: 'Here we've got them!' The next moment he fell, pierced by about forty bullets. The Boers to the left of Cronje's position never fired a shot, as it was not necessary."

THE THREATENING TARIFF WAR WITH GERMANY.

A LARGE proportion of the German people regard the meat inspection bill, which would prevent the importation of salted and canned meats at once, and that of fresh meat in 1904, with anything but pleasure. That the measure is directed mainly against the United States, in the hope that the United States Government may be forced to conclude treaties more favorable to German trade, is not doubted; but many Germans are not at all certain that the Americans can be thus driven to make concessions. The Berlin correspondent of the London *Times* says:

"There is, no doubt, a great preponderance of imports from the United States over exports from Germany to America. Yet these exports amounted in value in 1898 to 334,562,000 marks, notwithstanding the Dingley tariff, and exceeded the whole exports of Germany to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Rumania, Bulgaria, Servia, Turkey, Canada, and Mexico added together. Another important consideration is that while America, in the event of a tariff war, could easily obtain elsewhere the supply of toys, porcelain, cement, leather goods, millinery, and various products of the textile and chemical industries which form her chief imports from Germany, the German empire can not dispense with the petroleum, copper, maize, and cotton which she receives from America."

The matter is regarded with no little interest in England, as the German navy bill is supposed to hinge upon it. The Agrarians and other Conservatives are likely to oppose the navy bill, unless protection is granted the German stock-raiser. The London *Spectator* says:

"German merchants are desperately afraid of losing their American market, and may give up the navy bill rather than provoke a war of tariffs. The German Government, of course, have no wish to make meat dear, but the stock-raisers have, and between their obstinacy about profits and the Emperor's obstinacy about his navy a very serious situation may be created. Nothing irritates Americans more than a tariff directed against them. They think themselves at once cheated and insulted."

That the German merchants are "desperately afraid" is hardly putting it too strong, considering the manner in which they express themselves, in meetings as well as through their organs. The *Boersen Courier* (Berlin) asks, "What is the use of a navy for the protection of trade if there is no trade to protect?" The member for Bremen warned the House that "the Americans would be very angry if their trade is interfered with." The *Nation* (Berlin) remarks that "any one who knows the Americans must be aware that a most destructive tariff war must follow the exclusion of American meat." The Hamburg Trade Chamber words its protest as follows:

"The whole of German shipping, the whole of German export is at stake. The possibility of concluding a new commercial treaty with the United States is removed. Australia, England, and South America will, like the United States, threaten retaliation. Moreover, great injustice is done the poorer classes. The price of meat, already too high, will become prohibitive. That the imported meats are injurious to health is absolutely unproven."

The *Weser Zeitung* points out that the whole of the meat imports are only valued at $10,000,000, yet it is proposed to risk exports to the United States valued at $77,000,000.

On the other hand, a large number of papers point out that Germany is losing by her trade with the United States, and that American tariff legislation has gradually forced the German industries into a position of dependence which is described as "humiliating" by the *Dresdener Nachrichten*. The same paper claims that American lobbyists have influenced the German Foreign Office. The *Kreuz-Zeitung* (Berlin) says: "The Americans threaten to retaliate. We must show them that the foreigners can not frighten us." The *Neuesten Nachrichten* (Leipsic) says:

"Always this fear of 'retaliation' by the foreigner. When England takes our steamers, everybody, from Dan to Beersheba, shakes in his shoes for fear that expressions of dissatisfaction may hurt John Bull's tender feelings. When it is necessary to protect the health of our people by a measure which may be unpleasant to a dozen or so American merchants, we shiver because Brother Jonathan may get mad. Are we, then, really so helpless? . . . We do not believe that a tariff war threatens. It would be a jump in the dark which the cute Yankees will not undertake, for fear of breaking their own legs."

We condense the following from an article in the *Deutsche Oekonomist* (Berlin):

The question is not whether Germany should become free-trade or protectionist in principle. We must and shall be the very strongest advocates of international free trade, now and in future; for a high tariff can only hurt us. It must cripple us. Our population is growing enormously, and more than any other civilized people are we forced to find markets beyond our own narrow, political limits. To earn our bread in peace, we must have free trade all over the world. If it should be absolutely necessary, we must not scruple to enter into a struggle with blood and iron even, to enforce that free trade. If imperialism and the high-tariff systems of other countries force such a war on us, we should arm to the utmost to bring it to a successful issue. If we are merely forced into a tariff war, we must prepare to carry that through as well, without foolish considerations. There is yet time to do so, and nothing would be more disastrous than to fancy that we may not fight with prohibitive tariffs for fear of being starved. Some nations are such enemies of progress that they surround themselves with a Chinese wall. They refuse to understand Graf von Bülow's *do ut des* policy. The advisability of proceeding against the worst offenders with prohibitive Agrarian duties is well worthy our consideration.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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FOREIGN POSSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Ernest L. Harris, consular agent at Eibenstock, discusses European and American commercial competition, in a report dated January 24, 1900. Mr. Harris writes as follows:

"A recent article by George Wenlersse in the *Grande Revue* says, in part:

"'The danger is already at our threshold and is making itself felt. Brutal figures prove this fact most conclusively. A revolution which will change the commercial balance of power is taking place before our eyes. Until recent years, the Americans have been the best customers of European industries; they are now our competitors, and in very many branches have beaten us in the world's markets.'

"Mr. Wenlersse pays especial attention to the foothold which American manufactures have gained in the far East. The United States has succeeded in flooding China and Japan with guns, leather products of all kinds, machines of every description, electrical motors, etc.

"'Gradually the Americans are pushing their way into the British colonies. The last railroad built in India has American rails. American manufacturers export their iron and motors, their machinery, and galvanic wires to Cape Colony. Egypt, too, has Philadelphia bridge-builders on the scene. Three hundred railroad coaches have found their way from Jersey City into the land of the Pharaohs, and electrical tramways are forged in the foundries of Pittsburg to connect Cairo with the pyramids. Even Europe is not safe against the invasion of American goods. Russia, France, Germany, and Italy must pay tribute. England herself buys American locomotives, steel rails, paper ware, railroads coaches, and even coal. Sheffield, the home of the steel industry, has been dethroned by Pittsburg. It would be frivolity itself to remain indifferent to the expansion of this leviathan people.'

"We have reached our present position without special effort on the part of our manufacturers. Our export trade is in its infancy. How may we best focus our efforts to increase it? I believe this depends mainly upon two things—schools and ships. We must have industrial schools, wherein our young men may be thoroughly trained for their vocation in life. If a youth expects to become a manufacturer of cotton, he should learn all about cotton—whether it be a growth of his native country or of Egypt, India, or the Caucasus. He must learn about picking, carding, spinning, and weaving. The same is true of the would-be manufacturer of wool, iron, and steel. Germany's success as a commercial nation is to be attributed directly to her schools. The lad of Eibenstock who proposes to be a merchant divides his time between some business house and the industrial high school. There are schools all over the empire for boys in the lowest ranks of life; schools for the coming locksmith, shoemaker, blacksmith, etc. If it pays Germany to educate her laborers to manufacture products from imported raw material, what could we not accomplish through training-schools with the raw material at hand?

"As to ships, 91 per cent. of the freight from the United States is carried in foreign bottoms. If the English or German steamship lines are compelled by any chance to divert a number of vessels from the transatlantic traffic, loss will be incurred by our exporters of cotton, grain, etc. The more steamship lines the cheaper the freight. To-day, ships may be built at Bath, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Chester, and Newport News as cheaply as anywhere in the world."

PERSONALS.

In the recent death of J. Schabelitz, the famous Zurich publisher and author, the world of art and letters has lost one of its extraordinary characters. He was a shrewd business man, an excellent linguist, a skilful writer, and probably the most savage publisher who ever lived. When he accepted the famous memoirs of Count von Arnim, he wrote on the postal card with the acceptance the proviso, "I reserve the right to correct your infernally bad grammar."

To an aspiring poet who had submitted manuscript he answered by postal card: "I refuse to be disgraced by printing your doggerel. I don't return the copy because you didn't enclose enough postage. If you will send it, with the price of this card, I will send it to you, but I don't think the stuff is worth the expense on your part."

One of his postal cards to a novelist read about as follows: "For heaven's sake, come and take away the unnamable mass of paper you left here for me to look at!" An ambitious historian was

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Sent on FREE TRIAL.

We pay freight charges both ways if unsatisfactory...

Experience has given us such confidence in those who answer our advertisements that where we have no local dealer we will ship entirely on approval any style of our upright or grand pianos, and leave it to your judgment whether you would be better off to keep it and pay the price arranged — either in cash or

Remarkably Easy Payments,

or return it to us. This offer is backed by our business record of over 20 years, and has no catches or hidden entanglements — it is a straight business proposition. Think about all the best things that have ever been said about the best pianos. They would all apply to an **IVERS & POND.** Sum it all up in one sentence — **"No better piano is made or ever has been made."** The New England Conservatory of Music has purchased 239 of our pianos.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS

to send for our handsome catalogue (**free**), and we will mail it with a personal letter quoting lowest prices and giving valuable information about piano-buying, including our unique easy payment plans giving from one to three years to complete the purchase. **Old pianos taken in exchange.**

IVERS & POND PIANO COMPANY, 121 Boylston St., Boston.

HEALING! BEAUTIFYING!

Hyomei Antiseptic Skin Soap

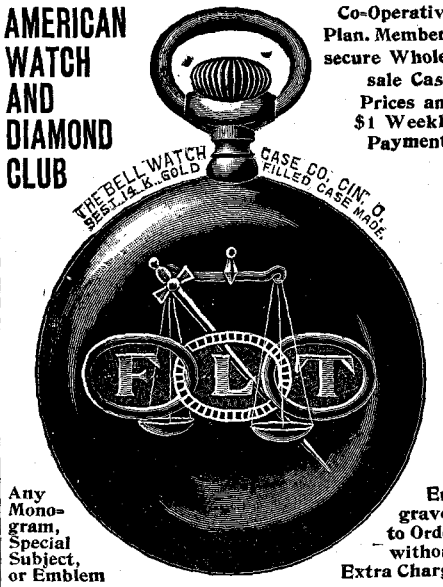
Made from the fresh green leaves of the Tasmanian Blue Gum Tree.

"A bath with Hyomei Soap is a rare luxury."

Sold by druggists everywhere or sent by mail. Price, 25 cents.

The R. T. BOOTH CO., 35 Ave. I, Ithaca, N.Y.

AMERICAN WATCH AND DIAMOND CLUB



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Join one of our Clubs and secure a High-Grade Watch—$25.00, $28.00 or $35.00—or Diamond—$40.00, $50.00 or $75.00. Privilege of $1.00 a week, or $5.00 a month payments.

Our co-operative plan secures you the net wholesale cash price, and the benefit of the easy Savings Bank method of payment. Besides, you have the use of watch or diamond while paying for it.

Watch or diamond shipped on receipt of first payment and references. Catalogue and testimonial letters tell all about it. Address

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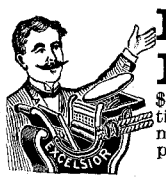

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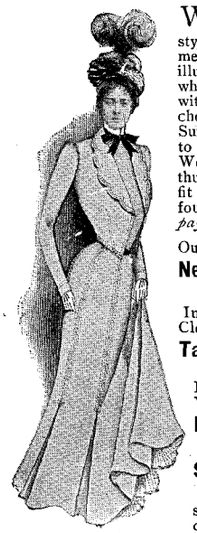
We have no agents or branch stores. All orders should be sent direct to us.

New Summer Suits, $5.



WE have just received from abroad some entirely new styles in Suits and Skirts for summer wear. We have had these illustrated on a supplement Sheet, which will be sent *free*, together with our Spring Catalogue and a choice collection of samples of Suitings, to the lady who wishes to dress well at moderate cost, We make every garment to order, thus insuring that perfection of fit and finish which is not to be found in ready-made goods. *We pay all express charges.*

Our catalogue illustrates:

New Designs in summer Suits, $4 up.

In Pique, Crashes, Cotton Covert Cloths, Ducks, Linens, etc.

Tailor-Made Suits, $5 up.

In All-wool Serges, Cheviots, Broadcloths, Covert Cloths, Venetians, etc.

Duck, Pique, and Crash Skirts, $3 up.

Separate Skirts, $4 up.

Lined with Percaline, well stiffened and bound with Corduroy; made of All-wool Cloths, Serges, Cheviots etc., in the latest effects.

Bicycle Suits in the newest fabrics, $5 up.

Separate Bicycle Skirts, $3.50 up.

Rainy-day Suits and Skirts made of double-face materials.

Our line of samples includes the newest materials, many of them being exclusive novelties not shown elsewhere. We also have a special line of black goods and fabrics for second mourning. All orders filled with the greatest promptness; a suit or skirt can be made in three days when necessary.

Write to-day for Catalogue, Supplement and Samples; you will get them *free* by return mail.

THE NATIONAL CLOAK COMPANY,
119 and 121 West 23d St., New York.

STARK TREES BEST by Test—74 YEARS. Largest Nursery. Fruit Book free. We PAY CASH WEEKLY & want MORE HOME & traveling salesmen
STARK BRO'S, LOUISIANA, MO.; Dansville, N.Y.

COE'S ECZEMA CURE $1 at druggists. 25c. box of us. Coe Chem. Co., Cleveland, O.

crushed by the following, written, like all of his correspondence, upon a postal card: "You are making the mistake of your life. You don't want to study history. You want to learn how to write."

ISADOR COHN, the New York Assemblyman from "de Ate," may not be a statesman, but when it comes to getting a bill through, he is certainly resourceful. He had distinguished himself during the present session of the Legislature by doing nothing but smile until his Dewey Park bill came up for consideration, and Slater, of New York City, moved to strike out the enacting clause. Then Cohn made his maiden speech and got his bill considered. Here is the speech: "This is my first speech, and perhaps my last this session. This is the only bill which I hope to pass, and I do not think that any one ought to vote against it. I have never voted against anybody's bill, and I don't think that anybody ought to vote against my bill. I have tried to be a friend to everybody, and I really think that everybody ought to be a friend of mine. This is a good bill. I don't see how anybody could be so unkind as to vote against it." Daniel Webster might have made a more eloquent speech, but the bill passed unanimously.

THE Anti-Death Penalty League of Massachusetts requested an opinion from William Dean Howells, and received the following reply:

"I think capital punishment a legal atrocity, and a species of homicide, incomparably more cruel than most private murders, since it inflicts death after long knowledge of death to come has multiplied its terrors for the victim. It is one of the most useless pieces of wickedness left in the world."

MAJOR ALBRECHT, who was in charge of the Orange Free State artillery and was captured with General Cronje, has a keen sense of humor. During his bombardment of Kimberley he kept a good lookout with his field-glasses, and when he saw a British shell coming he used to shout, "Koest, Kerels!" ("Down, fellows!"), his men then immediately taking cover. One of his German officers, Lieutenant Heister, evidently thought it *infra dig.* for an officer to lie down, and seemingly resented the idea of being included among "fellows," and was so in the habit of remaining standing. At last, however, he was compelled to take cover, for Major Albrecht, noticing his behavior, laughingly cried when the next shell started, "Down, fellows, and Lieutenant Heister!"

AN amusing correspondence recently passed between Rudyard Kipling and a London publishing house that deals extensively in American works. A letter was addressed to the author in care of this firm and by it forwarded to him at Rollingdean, with the following note:

"The enclosed letter has just reached us from America, and you will see that we had to pay a letter fine of threepence on it. Your obedient servants, G—— B——"

Here is Mr. Kipling's reply:

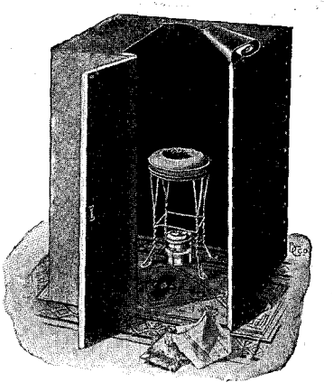
"DEAR SIR.—Mr. Rudyard Kipling desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 30. The letter that you enclose was from a firm of pirate publishers on the Pacific slope, and Mr. Kipling is glad to learn that you are only out of pocket threepence by it. Faithfully yours, "S. ANDERSON."

Then came the last of the correspondence:

"In forwarding you the letter from America addressed in our care, we thought we were doing a courteous act. We did not know from whom it came, but because it was from 'a firm of pirate publishers on the Pacific slope,' your secretary reports that you are glad to learn that we are only threepence out of pocket by it. This strikes us as the action of an 'absent-minded beggar.' Yours faithfully, G—— B——. P. S.—Kindly put the threepence in the tambourine."

If You Feel Depressed
Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

DR. W. E. PITMAN, Lynchburg, Va., says: "I have used it in nervous depression and dyspeptic troubles, with good result."



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Racine Cabinet For Turkish Baths

THE RACINE CABINET is a strong double-walled room, rubber-coated inside and outside and fitted with a door. When ready for use, the walls are rigid, yet by merely tipping the cabinet you fold it in a second into a 6-inch space.

A patent alcohol stove heats the cabinet to 150 degrees in three minutes. For a vapor bath, pour a pint of water into the vaporizer. For medicated baths, put the proper drugs in the water. We send 35 formulas with the cabinet.

The Racine cabinet places in your home all the benefits of the best Turkish bath rooms. Not an essential feature is lacking. You save breathing hot air, save the risk of exposure afterward, save time and expense. The cost is but 3 cents per bath.

For the cure of rheumatism, kidney and blood diseases, no other treatment can approach it. The hot-air bath forces the impurities that cause the disease out from five million pores at once. In all sanitariums the Turkish bath is the most important treatment. All who value cleanliness, complexion and health will eventually own one of these cabinets. The quieting, refreshing, invigorating effects of the bath are the pleasantest sensations possible. One bath will always stop a cold.

The Racine Cabinet is guaranteed to be the best one on the market. Not in any way similar to the worthless affairs now advertised for this purpose. We sell on approval, to be returned at our expense if not satisfactory. Sold direct to users at from $5 to $12, express or freight prepaid; alcohol stove, vaporizer and face steaming attachment included. Send today for handsome illustrated catalogue, and order from that.

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BOX X, RACINE, WIS.

BURPEE'S "Seeds that Grow"

If you want to get the Best seeds for your garden this year, you should send your address on a postal card for

Burpee's Farm Annual for 1900

It is a bright new book, considered by intelligent planters everywhere, "the Leading American Seed Catalogue." You had better write to-day. Simply address

BURPEE, Philadelphia.

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MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

In the Dining-Car.—HE: "Isn't it delightful to be dining together without a chaperon?"

SHE: "I should say so! Marriage is certainly a great economy."—*Puck.*

Ambitious.—"What I want," said the young applicant, "is a chance to rise in the business." "Very well. How would 5.30 A.M. suit you?"—*Harvard Lampoon.*

Not Fitted for It.—VISITOR: "When you are grown up, will you be a doctor, like your father?"

BOBBY: "Mercy, no! Why, I couldn't even kill a rabbit!"—*Brooklyn Life.*

The Difficult Thing.—TEACHER: "Now, boys, who can tell me which is the most difficult thing to acquire in cycling?"

CHORUS OF YELLS: "The bicycle, sir."—*Tit-Bits.*

An Accommodating Neighbor.—PIANO-TUNER: "I called to tune the piano."

LADY: "I did not send for you."

PIANO-TUNER: "No, but the man next door did."—*Cornell Widow.*

'Tis Ever Thus.—MRS HENPECKKE: "Doctor, I need a tonic. I am all run down."

DOCTOR: "Let me see your tongue."

MR HENPECKKE (*sotto voce*): "He won't find much evidence of it there."—*Philadelphia Record.*

Great Improvements.—"I see," remarked the observant boarder, "that meals are to be served in Chicago street-cars." "When," asked his neighbor, "will sleeping-cars be put on the Philadelphia street railways?"—*Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.*

One Effect of the War.—HIS WIFE: "If you can stop reading about the Boer war for a few minutes. I have something to tell you about the cook."

THE SUBURBANITE: "Yes? Is she going to trek?"—*Puck.*

Current Events.

Monday, March 26.

—**Lord Roberts's movement** on Pretoria will, it is expected, be accompanied by an advance of General Buller's force at Ladysmith.

—**Mr. Foraker** announces that he will press the Puerto Rican bill to a vote; **Mr. Davis** introduces a free-trade substitute.

—In the House, the **consideration of the Military** Appropriation bill is begun.

—The **court of inquiry** on the wreck of the *Charleston* **exonerates** the officers of the cruiser from all blame.

—**An exciting scene** occurs at the examination of the men charged with conspiring to kill **Senator Goebel, and bloodshed** is narrowly averted.

—**Rabbi Wise** dies at Cincinnati.

Tuesday, March 27.

—**Skirmishes are reported** from several quarters in South Africa; **at Warrenton** the Boers have apparently decided on offensive tactics against Lord Methuen's force.

—Serious **disturbances** are reported **in China**;

One School Buys 239 Pianos.

This number of pianos under one roof seems a *strange* fact, but when they are all from one maker it becomes *remarkable*. In another column will be found an attractive offer from the Ivers & Pond Piano Co., to sell a piano by mail, and in this connection the following letter will be of interest:

NEW ENG. CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC,
Boston, Mass., Aug. 25, 1898.

IVERS & POND PIANO CO., Boston, Mass.

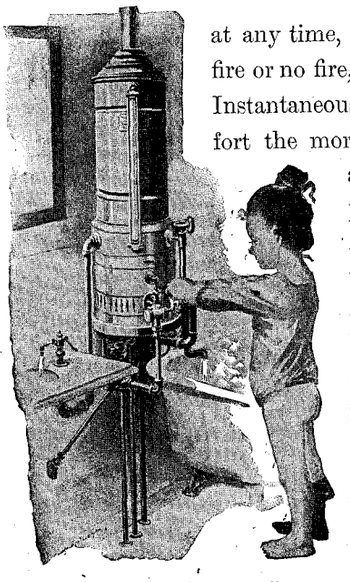
Gentlemen:—This institution has purchased since 1882 two hundred and twenty-seven Ivers & Pond Pianos, and last month we placed with you an order for twelve more, to be delivered early in September next. This increases the total of your pianos purchased by this institution to 239.

The fact that we have used your pianos continuously for seventeen years and are still ordering them is a stronger proof than anything we can say of the high estimation in which we hold the Ivers & Pond Pianos.

Yours very truly,
FRANK W. HALE, *Gen. Manager.*

DIGEST readers are urged to learn about their free trial plan. Simply send for catalogue to the Ivers & Pond Piano Co., 121 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass.

A HOT BATH IN FIVE MINUTES



So simple any child can use it.

at any time, day or night, summer or winter, fire or no fire, if you have a Humphrey Crescent Instantaneous Water Heater. It is a comfort the more appreciated the longer enjoyed, a convenience which no well-appointed household can do without. An inexhaustible supply of hot water instantly, costing one cent a tubful. An ornament to any bathroom. Guaranteed perfect in every detail. No complicated piping—simply set up and connected with gas and water. You can not afford to be without this great home convenience and luxury. Write to-day for free illustrated price-list and booklet.

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RECEIVED THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES OF AMERICA AND EUROPE—*UNANSWERABLE*

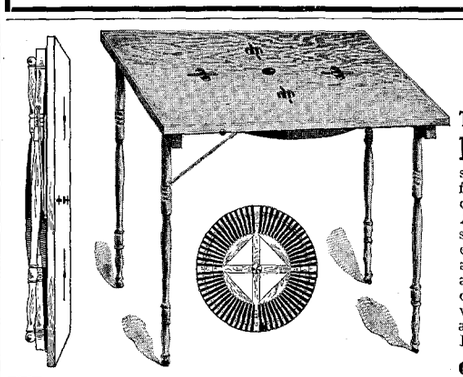
If you are a total abstainer, send, with your name and address, your age and date of last birthday, and we will include with the above information a proposition for an absolutely safe Life Insurance policy that will give you the full saving in cash to be realized on account of your temperate habits.

Address AGENCY DEPARTMENT

American Temperance Life Insurance Assoc'n

253 Broadway, New York

Mention THE LITERARY DIGEST.



Play Whist?

Then You Will Be Interested in This Table.

IT is intended for Duplicate Whist. In the Illustration, the large cut is the table set up for use. The small disk is the pocket for holding the cards. It is fastened to the bottom of the table and revolves. The dot on the margin shows the spring which controls it. At the side is the table folded. The pocket holds sixteen decks of cards. There are sixteen hands and each player has four leads. After playing a hand, cards are replaced in the pockets, and by touching the spring, a new hand is before each player. The advantages over trays are no lost cards, no errors and a place on which to play. The table is made in oak or mahogany and is a handsome, substantial piece of furniture. Price of each $6.00, f.o.b. cars, Green Bay, Wis.

GEO. H. RICE, = Green Bay, Wis.

STAMPED STEEL CEILINGS
Most Durable and Decorative. Suitable for all buildings. Numerous designs. *Send for Catalogue.*
H. S. NORTHROP, 52 Cherry Street, New York.

HANDBOOK OF MEDICAL GYMNASTICS....
The principles and applications of Swedish gymnastics, massage, and orthopedics. By Anders Wide, M.D., 8vo, cloth, 382 pp. Illustrated, $3.00
Funk & Wagnalls Co., Pubs., = New York.

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The Starvation Plan

Of Treating Dyspepsia and Stomach Troubles is Useless and Unscientific.

The almost certain failure of the starvation cure for dyspepsia has been proven time and again, but even now a course of dieting is generally the first thing recommended for a case of indigestion or any stomach trouble.

Many people with weak digestion as well as some physicians, consider the first step to take in attempting to cure indigestion is to restrict the diet, either by selecting certain foods and rejecting others or to cut down the amount of food eaten to barely enough to keep soul and body together, in other words the starvation plan is by many supposed to be the first essential.

All this is radically wrong. It is foolish and unscientific to recommend dieting to a man already suffering from starvation because indigestion itself starves every organ, nerve and fibre in the body.

What people with poor digestion most need is abundant nutrition, plenty of good, wholesome, properly cooked food, and something to assist the weak stomach to digest it.

This is exactly the purpose for which Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are adapted and the true reason why they cure the worst cases of stomach trouble.

Eat a sufficient amount of wholesome food and after each meal take one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets to promptly digest it.

In this way the system is nourished and the overworked stomach rested, because the tablets will digest the food whether the stomach works or not, one grain of the active digestive principle in Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets being sufficient to digest 3,000 grains of meat, eggs, or other albuminous food.

Dr. Harlandson and Dr. Redwell recommend these tablets in all cases of defective digestion because the pepsin and diastase in them are absolutely free from animal matter and other impurities, and being pleasant to the taste are as safe and harmless for the child as for the adult.

All drug stores sell this excellent preparation and the daily use of them after meals will be of great benefit, not only as an immediate relief, but to permanently build up and invigorate the digestive organs.

Rheumatism and Gout

A prominent physician writes:

DEAR SIRS;—Replying to yours on the use of TARTARLITHINE as a remedy in the treatment of gout, I will say that I have used it in the treatment of about a dozen cases with results that are a little less than wonderful. The characteristic feature of its action is the rapidity with which patients improve under its use. An improvement is noticeable within 24 hours. One of the most striking cases was that of a physician suffering from gout, muscular rheumatism and frequent bilious headaches. I prescribed Tartarlithine, and in one week there was absolute disappearance of all of the uric acid manifestations. The nervous irritability disappeared, and he stated that he had done the best week's work which he had accomplished in years.

Tartarlithine is supplied in bottles containing 50 doses at $1.00 and can be obtained of all druggists or post-free by mail. Pamphlets with Testimonials sent FREE.

McKESSON & ROBBINS,

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a Russian fleet has arrived at Chemulpo, and the English cruiser *Terrible* has left Durban for Chinese waters.

—In the Senate, Mr. **Foraker's amended substitute** for the House Puerto Rican tariff bill is introduced.

—**Secretary Root** issues an order, making the Philippine archipelago the military division of the Pacific.

—The **new Philippine Commission** holds its first meeting.

Wednesday, March 28.

—**General Joubert dies** in Pretoria; it is stated that President Kruger will succeed to the chief command of the Transvaal forces.

—**Ex-Consul Macrum** appears before the House committee on foreign affairs.

—In the House, the **debate on the Army Appropriation bill** is continued.

—The **German Reichstag** adopts the Budget bill.

Thursday, March 29.

—**President Kruger** announces his intention to retake Bloemfontein within a week.

—In the Senate, a motion **to strike out the 15 per cent. rates** of duty in the Puerto Rican bill **was defeated** by a vote of 33 to 16.

—In the House, the **Army Appropriation bill** is passed.

—**Secretary Hay and the Spanish Minister** sign a protocol extending for six months the time allowed for Spanish residents of the Philippines to declare their allegiance.

Friday, March 30.

—**Lord Roberts's troops** drive a Boer force from a number of kopjes on the railway north of Bloemfontein.

—**Funeral of General Joubert** is held in Pretoria.

—The **Portuguese Foreign Minister** announces that Portugal will soon pay the amount of the **Delagoa Bay award,** and do it without recourse to a loan.

—**The Arabs** have been defeated by the French **at Jurahr** in the Sahara desert.

—Another **outbreak occurs** in the Italian Chamber.

—The new **Philippine Commission holds** its last meeting and receives its final instructions before starting for Manila.

Saturday, March 31.

—**General Roberts** sends a telegram of condolence to President Kruger on the **death of General Joubert,** and **Rudyard Kipling** writes a poem on Joubert for a Bloemfontein paper.

—**Governor-General Davis** declares in an interview that free trade **is not advisable** for Puerto Rico.

—**Socialist obstructionists force** the resignatioa of Signor Colombo, president of the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

—In the Senate, **Mr. Fairbanks argues** in favor of a tariff for Puerto Rico.

—The **Kearsarge's double turrets** prove a success.

Sunday, April 1.

—**A British convoy** and six guns **are ambushed** by the Boers near Bloemfontein and captured.

—Comment was caused at Albany over **the failure** of Republican county conventions to **indorse Governor Roosevelt** for renomination.

—**Governor Steunenberg** of Idaho, made a strong argument for the presence of Federal troops in the disaffected mining districts.

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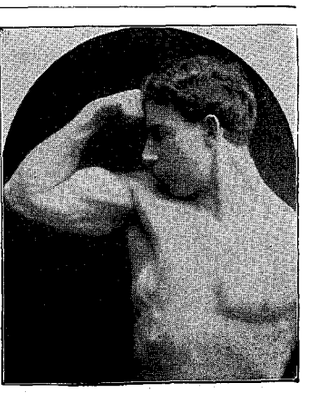

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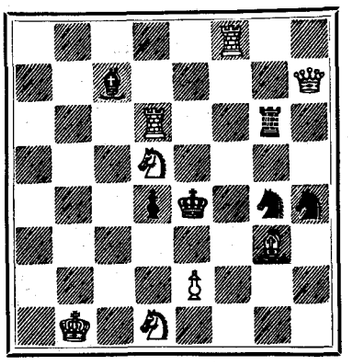
Problem 464.

By W. GLEAVE.

Second Prize, *Birmingham Daily Post* Tourney.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

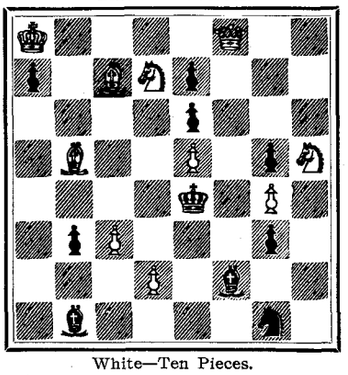
White mates in two moves.

Problem 465.

First Prize.

Aftonbladet, Stockholm, International Problem Tourney.

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 459.

Key-move, Kt—Kt 5.

No. 460.

1. Q—Q sq	2. Q—K R sq, ch	3. Q x Kt P, mate
K—K 5	P—Kt 7 (must)	
1.	2. Q—R 4 ch	3. Kt—B 7, mate
K—B 5	K—Q 4 (must)	
1.	2. K—K 3 !	3. Q— Kt 3, mate
K x Kt	P—B 3	
	2.	3. Q—Q 6, mate
	Any other	
1.	2. Q—R 4 ch	3. B—B 5 ! mate
K x P	K—Kt 3	
1.	2. Q—B 3 ch	3. Q—Q 3, mate
P x Kt	K any	

Other variations depend on those given. A number of solvers were satisfied with Q—Q Kt sq as the key-move. It won't do. We will let you have the satisfaction of finding the proper reply.

Both problems solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; the Rev. F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. S. M. Morton, D.D., Effingham, Ill.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; W. W., Cambridge, Mass.; the Rev. J. G. Law, Ocala, Fla.; A

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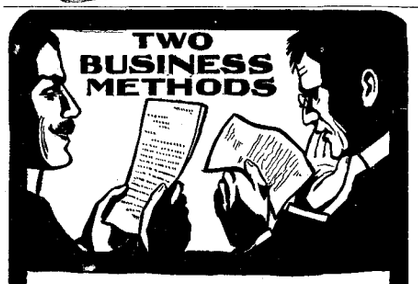

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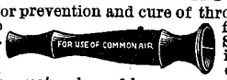

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1 P—K 4	P—K 4	16 Kt—Q 2	Q—K 2
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	17 P-Q Kt 4 (e)	B x P ch (f)
3 B—Kt 5	P—Q R 3	18 K—R sq	Q—K 8
4 B—R 4	Kt—B 3	19 P—R 3	Kt x B (g)
5 P—Q 3	P—Q Kt 4	20 R x Q	R x R ch
6 B—Kt 3	B—B 4	21 K—R 2	B—Kt 8 ch
7 P—B 3	P—Q 4	22 K—Kt 3	R—K 6 ch
8 P x P	Kt x P	23 K—Kt 4	Kt—K 7
9 Q-K 2 (a)	Castles.	24 Kt—B sq	P—Kt 3
10 Q—K 4	B—K 3	25 Q—Q 5	P—R 4 ch
11 Kt x P (b)	Kt x Kt	26 K—Kt 5	K—Kt 2 (h)
12 Q x Kt	Kt-Q Kt 5 (c)	27 Kt x R	P—B 3 ch
13 Castles	Kt x Q P	Mate is forced by	
14 Q—R 5 (d)	B x B	28 K—R 4	B—B 7 ch
15 P x B	R—K sq	29 P—Kt 3	B x P mate.

Notes (abridged).

(a) Castles, followed by P—Q 4, is better play here.

(b) Kt—Kt 5 is preferable.

(c) Sound and brilliant.

(d) Q—Kt 3, followed by Q—B 3, is better for White.

(e) If Kt—B 3, Kt x B P.

(f) Splendidly played.

(g) A magnificent sacrifice such as has very seldom occurred in actual play.

(h) Really magnificent.

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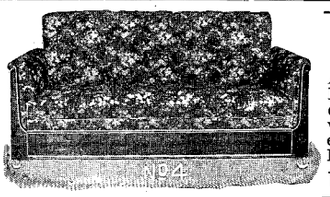

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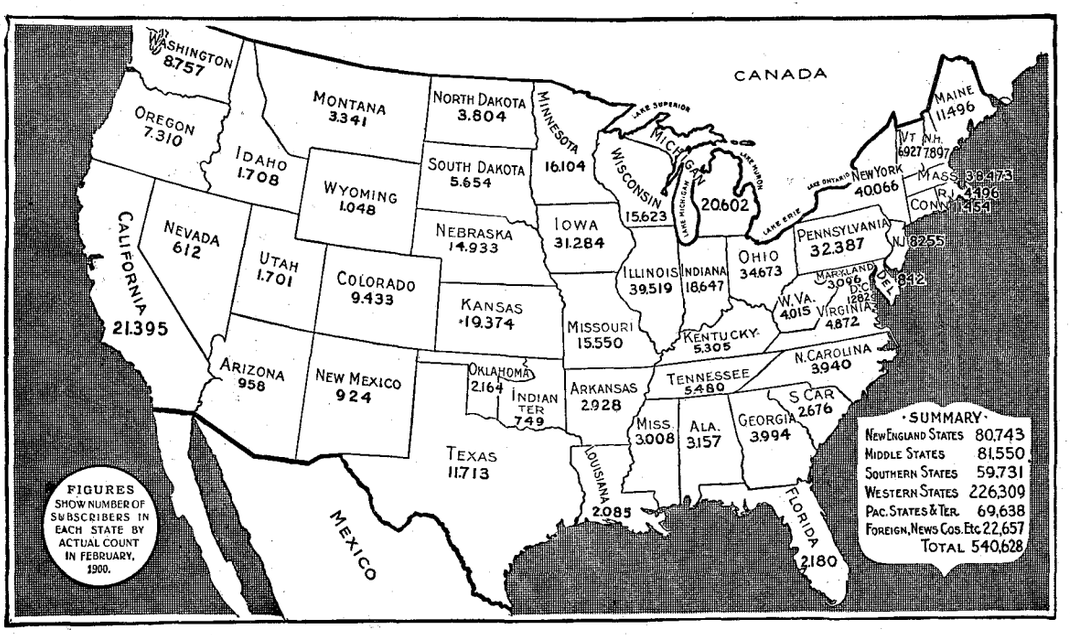

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